

***The Relationship Book:***  
***Volume 7***

**David Bruce**



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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1. Most women enjoy sex, too. (Duh!)**
- 2. Everyone is different.**
- 3. Communication is important.**
- 4. Consent is essential.**

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## Chapter 1: Questions 1-20

### 1. “For Those Who Fell In Love With Their Best Friend, What Was The Moment When You Realized You Caught Feels?”

1) space\_monkey420 wrote:

“This girl walked up to our group looking for him because she wanted to invite him to a party that night. She didn’t invite any of us, but my other guy friends were teasing her about trying to flirt and hook up with him.

“He didn’t show up to our nightly drinking sessions, and I heard he was at that party. I was so pissed. I was pissed at the chick for not inviting us, and I was sooo pissed at him for ditching us (or me?) to be with her.

“Then I see him from afar, walking towards us, dressed all fancy and smelling so good. He had left the party early to hang out with us instead. That exact moment.”

2) cowfishAreReal wrote, “When one of his friends joked that we should be a couple and my brain didn’t think that was a bad idea.”

3) help\_me\_do\_stuff wrote, “We had become best friends pretty quick and talked for hours every day online. One day I randomly realized how compatible we were and realized I’d already loved him for a while, but it just clicked at that moment that the love I had for him was as more than a friend.”

Bunnynutkins commented:

“Exact same thing with my now-husband. We talked endlessly online with no romantics or anything; he just became my absolute best friend I told everything to and wanted to speak to all the time. Then I began to realise just

how much I needed this person in my life and how my feelings for them was turning into love.

“It got slowly more hinty romantic then, until one night we had a conversation which went something like this:

“There are two paths we could take. One is going to be really hard and pretty scary, though. The other is that we just let this go and take the easy path.

“He said he wanted the hard path and from that moment on we chose to be together. It’s been beyond hard: I mean I lived in the UK and he lived in Sweden and we met online, so we knew it wouldn’t be easy. But so worth it.”

4) beetle-babe wrote, “When he was one of the first friends I told about the start of my MS [multiple sclerosis] diagnosis and he was so compassionate and kind. He was hugging me, like this really solid full-body hug that you see only in a Miyazaki movie, and it just ... sparked. We’d been friends since we were teens at summer camp, and it finally clicked. It wasn’t meant to be, unfortunately, but God it felt so intense. Hahaha.”

5) PaddkesOwnCanoe wrote, “When we were driving somewhere and she started singing ‘The Old Rugged Cross.’ She had a lovely voice and looked so happy singing it. :-)”

6) nycgirl6349 wrote, “He came to visit and slept over. We were having a heart to heart and my insecurities came up and at the end of the night after many different conversations, right before falling asleep, he said, ‘Do you really think you’re not beautiful?’ and that was it for me.”

7) briecheeser wrote, “My friends and I went out drinking and I got super hammered. He stayed with me at my house after all my friends left. He held my hair and rubbed my back as I puked my guts out. He stayed with me until 3 AM to

make sure I was okay. Needless to say, I fell in love and we are now dating.”

8) strike\_match wrote:

“I had two romantic but innocent dreams about him in one night. Sex dreams are whatever, they’re random and often deeply disturbing so I don’t read into them. But my dreams about him involved us just being sweet and holding hands and spending quality time together.

“I knew I was done for when I woke up that morning. But we got married, so it all worked out.”

9) Isoldmysoul4atwix wrote, “I have an opposite story if you would like. I met my ex through friends and dated for five years. We realised last year that we were better off as friends, so we broke up and are still best friends! There is no awkwardness or jealousy and I still get to keep him in my life.”<sup>1</sup>

## **2. “How Long After Knowing Your Partner Did You Say, ‘I Love You?’”**

1) vreeslewe wrote, “I’m a lesbian so like five minutes.”

Bree\_Luck commented, “I, too, am a lesbian. It was also five minutes although it was just under my breath and I waited another three months to say it to her out loud.”

2) MissInfer wrote, “About seven months into us hanging out and becoming close after we met from bonding over

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<sup>1</sup> Source: Blue\_Nina\_Roses711, “For those who fell in love with their best friend, what was the moment when you realized you caught feels?” Reddit. AskWomen. 23 July 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/oq87po/for\\_those\\_who\\_fell\\_in\\_love\\_with\\_their\\_best\\_friend/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/oq87po/for_those_who_fell_in_love_with_their_best_friend/) >.

shared interests/tastes/values. We started dating the day I told him I loved him.”

3) Icy-Organization-338 wrote, “We knew each other for five years but had been dating for around six months.”

4) msstark wrote, “I think it was about a month. Very fast for me.”

5) passionkiller711 wrote, “Ten days.”

6) rubyrose 1209 wrote, “Three weeks.”

7) Nosoycabra w5rote, “Seventeen months but only because he kept saying, ‘I love you,’ blah, blah. Otherwise, meh ... never.”

8) peachypiie wrote, “After two weeks, he slipped and said it first. He’s used to saying it to his mom, so yeah. I said it right after because I felt like I’ve known him my whole life and now it’s been 1.5 years. :)”

9) desinica wrote:

“One and a half years.

“We are Long-Distance Relationship but see each other almost every two to three months. I was working up the courage to say it and just when I was going to ... he said it.

“I’m sure we both felt it for a while but wanted to wait to say it in person.”<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Source: malmo777, “How long after knowing your partner did you say, ‘I love you?’” Reddit. AskWomen. 23 July 2021 <  
[https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/oqcuy5/how\\_long\\_after\\_knowing\\_your\\_partner\\_did\\_you\\_say\\_i/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/oqcuy5/how_long_after_knowing_your_partner_did_you_say_i/)>.

### 3. “How Do You Cope With Taking Care Of A Dying Parent?”

1) unknowingbioed wrote:

“Be there when you can. I usually had my mother help me when cooking even when she couldn’t do much. You can’t imagine how it improved her mood to even trim green beans.

“As far as coping, I needed space; I’m an introvert by nature. I also used alcohol (not a good recommendation).

“As fucked up as it is, I hope for all of you it is quick; my mother held on for 10 years. She spent more than half of it with a walker or wheelchair.

“It’s not nice to watch someone you love slowly fade into someone you don’t know.”

2) MrsKetchup wrote, “I’m going through it now. There really isn’t much you can do; it’s going to be painful. You’ll cry at completely random moments when a memory pops into your head, or when the gravity of the situation rears its head. For his sake, I keep a smile on and enjoy every moment you have together. But those dark realizations of what’s happening inevitably comes back. It’s a rollercoaster of happiness and sorrow.”

3) Nosoycabra wrote, “Hmmm. This was hard. First my brain was not really accepting the whole situation, so I was telling myself ‘it is gonna be ok’ and then I was trying to keep myself strong so my dad would be strong. When the situation went downhill, I got really, really depressed. Had to use therapy, tons of meditation, THC, and basically living one day at a time.”

4) inkwater wrote, “It’s really important to set up good boundaries and still enjoy your own life. My mother’s illness basically overtook my life and it was so hard to deal with her



situation on a daily basis. If you live in your own home, don't move into theirs unless you absolutely must. While I had the love and support of my friends, an outside support group for caregivers or even a monthly appointment with a therapist would've helped so much more. You have to find people who've been through it because nobody else gets it."

5) toomanschnauzers wrote, "Get the help you need to not become overwhelmed. I kept the mantra that we were on blessed time: the last of the time available. There isn't an easy path, just keep moving as best you can."

6) chocolatepumpkin wrote, "If you can, try to be in the moment wherever you are during this situation. If you are with your parent, focus on their needs and interaction. One of the sweetest memories I have of my mom near the end was just painting her fingernails and letting her feel pretty. She passed with that polish still on. Then when I had to work, I just tried to focus on that. I started to get into Taoist teachings and Buddhist teachings after my dad died, so when it was my mom who was sick those mindsets helped me."

7) ConnieC60 wrote, "It is not easy at all. I'm not convinced I coped particularly well. I think you should try to spend as much quality time with them as you can, and also cut them and yourself a little slack. My dad was quite difficult at times, and I had to remind myself not to get frustrated with him because he was so scared under it all. Try to give yourself a break every now and then and don't feel guilty about it. You'll need rest—the old saying is that you can't pour from an empty vessel and it's true. Is there anyone in your life who can help you? I think finally, as horrible as it sounds, you can hope that it's all over quickly for your parent's sake. My dad had about six months of being really up and down before going frighteningly downhill and passing away in the space of about 12 hours earlier this year. As brutal as it was, at least it wasn't long and drawn out."

8) msmermaidginger wrote:

“Recognise that it’s the circle of life — and a profound privilege — to parent the parent who provided physical, emotional, and financial support for you for far longer than you’ll get to do for them.

“Recognise you can’t do it on your own, nor should you. It will be enormously challenging. There’ll be times you’re overwhelmed with grief and / or frustration (parents are terrible patients), and times you’re simply exhausted and at the end of your rope. This is called being human and is completely forgivable. Reach out to the people in your life and to professionals for whatever support you need. Sending you love.”<sup>3</sup>

#### 4. “What Is Your Worst Wardrobe Malfunction Story?”

Oopsgotthemorbs wrote:

“I always wear trousers except the very occasional time I feel like getting dressed up in small dresses and high heels. Well, I had just bought this amazing bodycon dress that fit perfectly and was really comfortable, so I wore that out clubbing. I was a tad (very) drunk and noticed I had something stuck to my heel, and if I bent down I’d fall over so I went to sit down. Because a tiny bit (very big bit) drunk.

“I sat down and swung my shoe up on my knee and removed the thing. I thought I’d check my other shoe while I was there, so I did it with the other foot. It was quite comfy and I noticed it was cooling me down. Then I realised it was because I was flashing everyone my pubes. I’d forgot to put underwear on and I was a bit behind on grooming. I panicked

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<sup>3</sup> Source: Sarahpple, “How do you cope with taking care of a dying parent?” Reddit. AskWomen. 23 July 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/oqhpku/how\\_do\\_you\\_cope\\_with\\_taking\\_care\\_of\\_a\\_dying\\_parent/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/oqhpku/how_do_you_cope_with_taking_care_of_a_dying_parent/) >.

and was left red faced when I was fixing myself and looked up to see horrified bar staff staring at me, and a female bouncer halfway across the dance floor coming towards me. I ended up apologising profusely and running away to the other floor (club had two levels), hiding in the corner wishing for sweet, sweet death.

“I never forgot undies again, mind you!”

2) Wawnkatawnka wrote, “I had a roommate who worked as a bike courier. Once she made it all the way down the block before she stormed back into the house, yelling, ‘I forgot pants.’ It was -20c.”

3) km8907 wrote, “Diving into a pool with a tankini on. I came up out of the water, my top did not. Bits were seen. By relatives.”

4) upwiththesun101 wrote, “I tried to go surfing in a string bikini. It was the dumbest thing I’ve ever done. Titties were out the entire time.”

5) GreenMountain85 wrote, “A couple years ago, I took my kids to get ice cream, and I was wearing a pair of huge sweatpants but I didn’t want to change since we were just going in the ice cream place and out. Anyways, when we were standing at the counter, my son who was three-ish at the time was hanging on my leg like toddlers and preschoolers do sometimes ... and ... you guessed it. Him hanging on my leg pulled my pants down. Worse, he was still holding onto the pants so I couldn’t pull them up as quickly as I wanted. Thank goodness I was at least wearing underwear!”

6) boredaftiredaf wrote, “I was at a beach / water park place, and they had go-kart races. I went on one after I got done at the waterslides. I was wearing a bikini top that ties around the back and around the neck. The ties came undone while I was racing and I couldn’t pull it back up because the seatbelt

covered my entire torso and it was super tight. I had to pull over and all the teenage boys who were working ran over to see what was wrong. I had my arm covering everything and the seatbelt covered me, too. I told them the situation and they all froze and got awkward, not knowing how to handle the situation. Lmao. One boy got on the go-kart, like standing on it with his butt in my face, so he could steer and hit the gas and he drove me back to an exit. Once I got off, I pulled it up as much as I could while people were staring at me and a group of girls pulled me into their friend group and fixed the strings and tied it for me.”

7) clinicskeleton wrote, “Was meeting the boyfriend’s family for the first time at his sister’s wedding. I already didn’t feel too welcome. The wedding was out of state so we were staying with his family. Day of her wedding I find that I left my strapless bra at home. I run to the mall and buy one of those stick-on ones. (I’d used one before, so not really an issue.) I thought I bought the right size. (I didn’t. I’ve gained a little bit of weight and any time that happens, my boobs just do their thing and size up quite a bit, but I underestimated how much they had.) So as we’re at his sister’s wedding and I’m meeting all these people for the first time, the bra breaks. Mind you, I was wearing a pretty deep V-cut dress Jessica Rabbit-style dress, and I almost flashed his family multiple times that day and constantly had to readjust my breasts.”

8) msstark wrote:

“Wore a strapless dress to a friend’s wedding. On my way from the hotel to the car, it fell all the way down to my waist. There wasn’t much I could do about it since we were almost running late and I hadn’t brought a spare dress.

“Luckily it was cold and I was wearing a shawl, so I just sat through the ceremony kinda holding the dress up between my body and my upper arms. When we got to the reception

I went to the restroom and used the pin from my shawl to pinch my dress tight enough that it stayed in place. I danced all night with no more mishaps.”

9) Sfc\_3236 wrote, “I went to the beach wearing my new bikini top. Instead of tying in the middle of my back, it had a clasp. Well, I bent down to pick up a shell and the clasp broke — the straps shot off me and my boobs came flying out. The worst part was the straps were too short for me to temporarily fix it by tying into a knot. I ended up having to wear a towel the whole walk back to the hotel. I will never buy a bathing suit like that again.”

10) xotaylorj wrote:

“My junior year of high school, I was in the locker room getting dressed after softball practice.

“Girls’ athletics were in the morning (so during season we would get to school at 6 AM and practice all the way through first period), and we had minimal time to get dressed before heading to class.

“I was putting on my jeans and had to do the infamous lunge-stretch dance to get them on my slightly sweaty legs.

“Then it happened. The rip you could hear from a mile away. My teammates, also getting dressed, all stopped as we collectively assessed the damage.

“I had about an eight-inch tear in the *crotch* of my pants. From the top of the zipper area, down ... down ... down ... until it turned and ultimately made a huge ‘L’ shape opening up to my thigh.

“I was wearing neon green underwear.

“It was winter, and I didn’t have a backup pair of pants.

“Solution: I tied a sweatshirt around my waist, but backwards, so it was like an apron. Went to class.

“Called mom, who thankfully worked from home, about a 10-minute drive away.

“God love her. When I said, ‘Please bring me a pair of jeans — it’s an emergency,’ she took that as ‘bring every pair of pants you can find.’

“An hour later, I go to the office to pick up what I think is a pair of pants. Nope — my mom had literally brought EVERY pair of pants I owned.

“So, I changed out of my crotchless jeans & walked around with a bag full of about 20 pairs of pants for the rest of the day.

“I always kept a backup pair after that. :-)”<sup>4</sup>

## 5. “What’s The Worst Date You Ever Had?”

1) mox44ah wrote, “Got set up on a blind date once between mutual friends. She shows up to the restaurant already a little tipsy, orders multiple appetizers and takes only like one or two bites from each one. Then she proceeds to order three or four more drinks and is visibly drunk at this point. She gets up and says she’s going to the bathroom and staggers off. About 15-20 minutes go by, so I try to call her several times but no answer. Finally I decide to pay the check and just leave. About two hours later I’m sitting at home and I get a call from an unknown number. It’s the police department. She was picked up on a DUI on her way home after she

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<sup>4</sup> Source: mermaid\_with\_pants, “What is your worst wardrobe malfunction story?” Reddit. AskWomen. 26 July 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/osareb/what\\_is\\_your\\_worst\\_wardrobe\\_malfunction\\_story/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/osareb/what_is_your_worst_wardrobe_malfunction_story/) >.

ditched me and gave the cops my number to see if I could go bail her out!”

mox44ah added, “I was blown away. I just said I don’t know anybody by that name.”

2) andandandetc wrote:

“Not necessarily a date, but a person I was dating invited me to his parents’ house for the afternoon. He wanted to introduce me to them and show me the house he grew up in. I thought it was super sweet and had no problems going. He was also in the middle of moving and needed to pick up a few things, so it really didn’t seem that unusual.

“Yeah, we got there and it was *awful*. His entire family was there. They traveled from hours away, too. This was not just meeting the parents; it was meeting the ENTIRE family. Even worse? At some point, this jackass told his parents that he had proposed. We had been dating TWO months.

“I spent the entire afternoon dumbfounded and just playing along. We were two hours from home, and I had no cell service, no way to leave at all. We ended up spending the afternoon brainstorming wedding ideas and planning an Alaskan honeymoon that his parents planned to gift us. His brother even called to say congratulations!

“We drove back to his apartment in silence. When we got there, I got in my car and left, didn’t even bother grabbing my stuff. Weirdest experience ever. I have no idea how he broke it to his parents that we weren’t getting married.”

3) Terriblu wrote:

“When my wife and I were ,dating I asked her to come to my brother’s wedding with me. It was a terrible idea because:

1. I was in the wedding party.

2. She had never met my parents, let alone my entire extended family, which is quite large.
3. I didn't make a good plan for who she would sit with at the start of the reception.

“Luckily my cousin and his wife took her under their wing and my aunt who married into our crazy family sat and talked to her until I was done with wedding party duties. My wife still gives me a hard time about it.”

4) GenericSupervillain3 wrote, “We were out on a date. We had been seeing each other for a while, close to a year maybe. She gets a phone call. Suddenly she looks destroyed. Her fiancé had just died in a motorcycle accident.”

5) KCCHAMPIONSFANMOM wrote, “Came out from a movie, late at night, and date's Camaro was stolen. Apparently, he called his WIFE (that I did not know he had) and let her know where he was and what happened. She showed up and realized he was on a date! She started chasing ME around the parking lot, telling me she was going to kill me. Saved by the cops who showed up just in time to take the auto theft report.”

EverythingisB4d commented:

“To me, the order of shitty person goes cheater, lover who you knew and was aware of the relationship, and lover who you didn't know and was aware of the relationship.

“To me if you're the lover in the situation and you didn't know, you're not at fault at all. That just falls on the [cheater] as a double cheat.”

6) tyrano-dyroc wrote, “It was a double date. She was more interested talking to the other girl throughout the whole thing. Found out later from the other guy that his girl cheated on him with my date.”



7) 4EVRGamer wrote, “When I was in college many years ago, before the advancement of cell phones and social media, I was chatting with a girl I met on a BBS [Bulletin Board Service] who lived on Long Island, NY. I was 18 at the time, but I lied and said I was 22 because she said she was 25. We spent a few weeks emailing each other, as well as calling each other. We even exchanged pics. When we finally met up, things blew up. Turns out we both lied about our ages: She was really 33, and she lied because she thought she looked younger. She admitted she sent a college photo to me. We still had dinner together, but it was awkward as hell. We never spoke again.”

8) Paranoides wrote, “She started talking about her life story from childhood to that day. Year by year ... with every single traumatic story and emotion. That was our first ever date and she didn’t even let me speak for that duration. I was like. ‘Oh, okay, she is now talking about high school. Six more years left. Hold tight.’”<sup>5</sup>

## **6. “What Is The Most Embarrassing Thing You Have Witnessed That Someone Else Did?”**

1) RealisticDelusions77 wrote:

“In my college orientation group, there was a really intense Christian guy who wanted to make friends, but he had poor people skills.

“One day I saw him walk up to this girl and ask, ‘What’s your name?’

“She said, ‘Slut,’ and walked off.”

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<sup>5</sup> Source: givemeyourfreefood, “What’s the worst date you ever had?” Reddit. AskReddit. 28 July 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/ot9rl7/whats\\_the\\_worst\\_date\\_you\\_ever\\_had/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/ot9rl7/whats_the_worst_date_you_ever_had/) >.

2) Allisade wrote:

“My wife telling our kid that her favorite word is ‘Oxymoron.’

“My kid asks, "What does that mean?"

“Wife pauses, trying to find the right words to explain, I call from the other side of the room, ‘Jumbo Shrimp!’

“My wife’s immediate, completely dismissive response, ‘What? No. It’s not a shrimp! Daddy is silly.’

“Then I just waited.”

3) PM\_Me\_UrRightNipple wrote, “I saw a girl flash her tits to a bouncer to get into a bar and she still got sent to the back of the line.”

4) Deus-system-failed wrote:

“I was home alone in the moment singing ‘Change’ by Miwa in my underwear and was really into it until I turned around and found my family staring at me.

“Headphones can make you feel more alone at the cost of nearly dying of shock.”

5) SkinCrawly wrote, “Someone coming to school dressed for Halloween on the day before Halloween.”

6) ay-eye-ron wrote:

“Someone I know from high school who at the time tried to flirt / dirty talk with a girl he met. At first I was very amazed, almost like a proud father seeing his son achieve something great, just for him to **COMPLETELY** fuck it up by slipping up his words and telling her, ‘*I would love your cock in my mouth.*’

“I to this day still don’t know how that happened, but it’s something I still never let him hear the end of.”

7) gallidel wrote, “You know how people say, ‘You know that embarrassing thing you think about when trying to fall asleep? People don’t remember it.’ This thread is proof that people do, in fact, remember it.”<sup>6</sup>

## 7. “What’s A Weird Lie You Were Told As A Kid?”

1) TinyOwlLostMyLetter wrote, “Horny means angry. I used that word to my friends; they started calling me a whore.”

2) ICantFindNicknameXD wrote, “I asked how kids were made. My dad told me that babies were made by this way: dad and mom kiss, dad’s spit goes into mummy’s stomach, and baby happens there. I found it disgusting but accepted it. A while later, I accidentally kissed a girl at primary school while playing chase and catch. I grabbed her by the arm and took her to the principal. Said stuff like ‘I know we shouldn’t have made a baby at this age. Please don’t tell my dad.’ Hard times.”

3) flipping\_birds wrote, “When I was four, I had some shorts that I wouldn’t wear because they had flowers on them, so my parents told me they’re not flowers, they’re leaves. I fell for it.”

4) Crayen5 wrote, “My siblings convinced me if you don’t run out of the bathroom before the toilet finishes flushing, some sewer monster will come out and eat you. Believed it

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<sup>6</sup> Source: THEMIGHTYCUMLORD, “What is the most embarrassing thing you have witnessed that someone else did?” Reddit. AskReddit. 28 July 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/otfl57/what\\_is\\_the\\_most\\_embarrassing\\_thing\\_you\\_have/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/otfl57/what_is_the_most_embarrassing_thing_you_have/)>.

for a while until my parents caught on I wasn't washing my hands, so they set me straight."

5) swanyMcswan wrote:

"I won't go into details, but the story of Hogan Bill. He was a white man who lived with the Indians and was still around.

"Sadly I legitimately believed he still roamed my grandparents' ranch until I was like 14.

"My cousins and I have perpetuated the myth of Hogan Bill by telling our nieces / nephews / kids about him. Even showing them his hut.

"We still keep the hut maintained and add cow bones, raccoon and rabbit pelts, etc., to make the young kids think he is still around."

6) WoolooMVP10 wrote, "I was reading a kid's magazine while on a trip and saw an ad for *George of the Jungle 2* and wanted to see it since I liked the first one. My brother ended up saying, 'No. Don't go watch it. It's bad.' I asked, "'How do you know?' and he answered it's because the Tag-Line was 'Watch Out!' which meant it had bad things in it that made it sound more adult than it actually is ... because apparently all movies with the tag-line, 'Watch Out!' are for adults and not kids."

7) Due-Yogurtcloset7927 wrote:

"My twenties were going to be magical. There was nothing magical about them, I did drugs, drank too much, got arrested, had lots of casual sex.

"Wait, actually ...."

8) StarKat555 wrote, “One time at the zoo, my mom told younger me that peacocks ate bad kids because I was chasing one around. I was scared of them for years after that.”<sup>7</sup>

### **8. “(NSFW) What Are Some Things That A Guy Should Never Ever Tell His Wife?”**

1) Tanisis22 wrote, “I didn’t get to try my mother’s lasagna until I was twenty years old. Why? My father, in a temporary bout of insanity, while eating my mother’s homemade lasagna said to her, ‘This is really good lasagna, but you know who makes REALLY good lasagna? My ex-wife.’”

Tanisis22 added, “That are still married, but he’ll never live it down. Also, no lasagna.”

Rybur525 wrote, That’s an obvious no go. Best brownies I ever had were from my ex-girlfriend just out of high school, but that secret will have to die with me now. No way I’m bringing that up to my future wife.”

palmettoswoosh commented, “My pawpaw said something similar to mawmaw when they got married. He said, ‘This is good, but this isn’t momma’s cooking,’ so she took everything and threw it away and said, ‘Then you can go eat at your momma’s from now on.’”

2) RonStopable08 wrote:

“Well, recently in [r/sex](#) a guy said while drunk to his wife, ‘I’m tired of your p\*\*\*y and I want to try a new one.’

bearnosebearnose commented, “A few months into the relationship, my ex once told me I’m bad being on top and

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<sup>7</sup> Source: [\\_ames\\_o](#), “What’s a weird lie you were told as a kid?”

Reddit. AskReddit. 28 July 2021 <

[https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/otf4fc/whats\\_a\\_weird\\_lie\\_you\\_were\\_told\\_as\\_a\\_kid/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/otf4fc/whats_a_weird_lie_you_were_told_as_a_kid/) >.

his ex was amazing at cowgirl position. I was so upset and ashamed I ended the video call abruptly. He then apologized by saying, 'But you're much better at blowjobs than she was' as if that would erase the hurt. I never ever rode him again after that even after he'd apologized numerous times. That single comment alone obliterated my confidence and comfort in having sex with him, because I couldn't shake the thought of him thinking of his ex whenever we had sex. It didn't help that he kept saying my thighs were too big and I should eat less and burn more fat on my legs. That's why he's an ex now."

"So that's up there."

3) Mumofgamer wrote, "That something is easy when she is clearly struggling to do it. This particularly applies to physical things — even if they don't necessarily require strength."

GalacticGuitar commented, "I've been playing guitar for almost five years, and my girlfriend decided she wanted to try, so for her birthday, I gave her one of my old guitars (my first one, in fact) and she would get so frustrated when I tried to show her how to play a relatively simple song and she couldn't get it, but I just had to reassure her that I was no better when I started and that she could do it if she practiced."

4) J33P88 wrote, "I once heard my stepdad say (my mom was standing right beside him) that his ex-wife was a 10 in looks but a 4 in personality, but that my mom was a 4 in looks, but a 10 in personality. He thought it was a compliment. Aaaaand he still hasn't lived it down, but his

story has changed over time. My mom is now a 7 in looks. Lmao.”<sup>8</sup>

## 9. “What’s Something A Partner Has Said To You That You Never Forgot?”

1) Sassy-Starfish wrote, “I wrote every horrible thing my ex-husband said to me on my wedding dress then set it on fire. Highly cathartic experience. 10/10 would recommend.”

2) BirdOfParadiseA wrote, “That they almost went out and cheated on me but the new FIFA [a football video game] came out so they stayed home to the play game instead. I still remember it because I find it hilarious to this day. Thanks, FIFA, for your community service.”

3) idkwhat3writehere wrote:

“That he wishes he never spoke to me

“I did nothing wrong, which he admitted himself. He seriously just told me out of seemingly nowhere that he wishes he never spoke to me, and he would go on to repeat this exact phrase to me some months later.

“Not many people understand why it hurt me so much, but I would rather be sworn at than be told that again.”

4) mybowtiesayshi wrote:

“My boyfriend told me I’m the most thoughtful person he knows, and that may be a small thing, but after trying to be thoughtful for others and it not being noticed, it’s really nice to hear and has stuck with me. It’s what I think about when

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<sup>8</sup> Source: supefuckdupgod, “(NSFW) What are somethings that a guy should never ever tell his wife?” Reddit. AskReddit. 30 July 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/oudvzn/nsfw\\_what\\_are\\_somethings\\_that\\_a\\_guy\\_should\\_never/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/oudvzn/nsfw_what_are_somethings_that_a_guy_should_never/) >.

I feel like I'm not doing enough for or saying enough to other people to remind myself that I am good.

“Conversely, I had an ex tell me he thought about other people when we had sex and that will pretty much always live in my brain, despite my best efforts to remove it.”

5) Sue333 wrote:

“I have had dramatic weight changes throughout my marriage. I said once to my husband, ‘You’ve seen me at my very heaviest, you’ve seen me at my very thinnest, and you’ve never once commented on my weight or appearance.’ He replied, ‘Because it never mattered. My feelings for you never changed with your weight.’

“AWWWWW! Thanks, babe.”<sup>9</sup>

## 10. “What Is The Worst Thing That’s Been Said During Sex?”

nopenonotatall wrote:

“I once had a guy ask, in the middle of making out, if I ‘liked it rough.’ I sort of shrugged and was like, ‘Eh, maybe,’ thinking he’d throw me down on the bed or hold my hands above my head or something. Nope, he hauled off and straight up punched me in the face

“It was our first date.”

madsjchic commented, “Lmao. I’m so sorry, but oh, my god.”

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<sup>9</sup> Source: stary\_eyed, “What’s something a partner has said to you that you never forgot?” Reddit. AskWomen. 31 July 2021 <  
[https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/ov2k35/whats\\_something\\_a\\_partner\\_has\\_said\\_to\\_you\\_that/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/ov2k35/whats_something_a_partner_has_said_to_you_that/)>.



nopenonotatall responded, “Hahahah. Dude, it honestly makes me laugh now. I know that’s horrible, but it’s just almost comical how badly he read the room there.”

madsjchic asked, “Did he at least apologize or what happened after he punched you?”

nopenonotatall responded:

“Oh, yeah, he was really embarrassed once he realized how bad of a call he’d made there.

“It gets worse, though: We actually continued talking for another week or so until he got mad at me when I cancelled our plans and he assumed I was ‘cheating on him.’ (We knew each other for a week at this point.) In reality, I was caretaking for my grandma who had Alzheimer’s. I had invited him to come over once she went to sleep, but my uncle, her son, stopped by to visit her and decided to stay in the spare room so it sort of squandered my plans and I had to cancel on him. After he accused me of ‘cheating,’ I tried to clarify, ‘Dude ... it’s because my uncle is here. He came to visit his mom.’

“This fucking guy then accused me of ‘CHEATING’ *WITH MY UNCLE!* That was the final straw for me. He got blocked with the swiftest of swiftness. Disgusting.”<sup>10</sup>

## 11. “What’s The Most Dramatic Scene You’ve Ever Encountered?”

1)jesomree wrote, “I’m a midwife. Once we had a baby born that was (unexpectedly) extremely sick. About halfway through the 12-hour resus, I took a step back and took in the

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<sup>10</sup> Source: Naughtyalexis21, “What is the worst thing that’s been said during sex ?” Reddit. AskWomen. 31 July 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/ov5ztc/what\\_is\\_the\\_worst\\_thing\\_thats\\_been\\_said\\_during\\_sex/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/ov5ztc/what_is_the_worst_thing_thats_been_said_during_sex/)>.

scene. 15+ people from 5+ hospital departments including a trauma surgeon; neonatologists on Zoom; a ventilator, two observation machines, multiple IV pumps, numerous other pieces of equipment from all over the hospital; three emergency trolleys; management calling hospitals all over the country to try and get the baby transferred out. All around a tiny 3kg baby.”

Note by David Bruce: jesomree did not write whether the baby survived. Writers, please try to answer questions your readers are likely to ask.

Icy-Organization-338 commented, “A few years ago we had a medical event with my son. Most of it is a traumatic blur, but I remember looking up and seeing three ambulances, two police cars, and two fire trucks. We live remotely and they put out some special code for a child emergency and basically everyone in the area showed up. He’s fine now, but I’ll never forget that.”

Note by David Bruce: Thank you for telling the readers that your son is fine now. Readers want to know that kind of information.

2) TenaciousToffee wrote:

“It was sad, but my sister-in-law’s friend was so hysterical she jumped onto the coffin of her husband as it was being lowered into the grave. Someone had to physically pull her off and carry her. It was the worse fucking day. We had to tranquilize her and put her to bed.

“She’s doing better, but I couldn’t imagine being that in love and losing him after just a few years of marriage.”

3) Icy-Organization-338 wrote:

“Years ago a friend of mine died; he was 19. At his funeral a married woman we vaguely knew had a screaming mental breakdown at his coffin during the viewing.

“Her husband dragged her away and the entire funeral found out that her and my friend had been having an affair. She was at least 15 years older than him and had two or three kids.

“She had to be carried out by her husband because she was having a panic attack. It was pretty insane.”

4) provocajade wrote:

“My husband and I witnessed what we thought was the end of this relationship.

“We went to this famous BBQ place; the line is long. The couple ahead of us was also there visiting and we hear how good the beef ribs are and that he’s so excited for them as it’s the best he’s ever had and how much he was waiting for this the whole trip.

“I mean the man is selling it and made us decide to order some. I normally don’t get them as I’ve had it only twice and they’ve been just OK. Where I’m from isn’t really a BBQ area.

“We’re almost to the front and he really needed to pee. She said she will order don’t worry. He’s like, ‘You sure? I want the beef rib plate.’

“The only other free table was next to them so we also sit next to them.

“Later we hear them talking and he’s like, ‘What was it I wanted so bad I talked about it the whole trip?’

“‘Beef ribs.’

“‘What did you get?’

“‘Pork ribs.’

“The line is still long so he was like raging. It would take another hour to line up. He really should have bribed the next person to buy him an extra rib but I think he was hangry.

“He just raged and sat there. She was like ‘I’ll line up and get you some.’

“He was like, ‘No, that’s stupid. I’m just gonna eat this rib and remember the time that I counted you and you failed.’

“There was more and it was petty and dramatic. I felt bad because like I’m a hangry person and have a really hard time with expectations and related. I almost wanted to give him our one beef rib.

“We’re pretty sure they broke up after that. It seriously felt like the straw. It was the most dramatic thing I saw. A breakup because of a beef rib.”

Note by David Bruce: “A rib” apparently means “a rack of ribs.”

5) VelvetSugar87 wrote, “My sister saying, ‘I don’t,’ at the altar. It was pretty intense. Of course she went into a crying fit after that and told everyone why she couldn’t go through with it. She didn’t love him and apparently doesn’t love men at all. I always knew for the most part, I remember she told me when I was 17 and she was 14. She never told our parents and she didn’t like to talk about it much, but then she suddenly started dating the guy she was going to marry and I thought, ‘Ok, maybe she was confused at the time.’ Apparently not, she said that she was trying for our parents, they are quite religious ... but they’re fine with it. I wish she’d told them sooner to avoid the whole thing and not hurt her ex-fiancé in the process, but he found someone and so did she. I guess all’s well that ends well.”

6) MidnightFireHuntress wrote:

“Was at a party a loooong time ago when I was barely 18, saw a girl smash a lamp over another girl’s head; it was one of the loudest (and honestly coolest) things I’ve ever seen, it was a big-ass antique glass lamp that she smashed right over her head, glass went flying everywhere and people started screaming and running, it was intense

“The girl who did it ran out of the party and the girl who got hit was knocked out and bleeding everywhere in a giant pool of blood, she had glass shards sticking out of her hair and all over her arms, police showed up and I just kind of sat in the corner with my friends eating chips watching the whole thing unfold, lots of screaming, panicking, swearing, blaming, no one really knew what happened or why it happened.

“Turns out the girl who got hit over the head was sleeping with a guy who was already taken and the girlfriend found out and smashed her over the head with the nearby lamp, I don’t know much about what happened after, but I do know the girl who got hit was okay despite having to go to the hospital.”<sup>11</sup>

## **12. “What Are Some Ways Your Significant Other Has Stepped Up For You When You Weren’t Sure If He Was The Right One For You?”**

1) GreenMpuntain85 wrote:

“My husband and I had been together for nine-ish years when our youngest kid was born. In the beginning of our relationship, I wanted to get married and he didn’t. Then by

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<sup>11</sup> Source: jacklsd, “What’s the most dramatic scene you’ve ever encountered?” Reddit. AskWomen. 31 July 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/ov1vhe/whats\\_the\\_most\\_dramatic\\_scene\\_youve\\_ever/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/ov1vhe/whats_the_most_dramatic_scene_youve_ever/)>.

the time he proposed to me several years later, I wasn't sure I wanted to be forever legally bound to someone. I just wasn't 100% sure he was who I wanted to be with forever.

“I had some pretty severe mental health issues after our last child was born. Panic attacks, anxiety, insomnia. When he saw how difficult of a time I was having, he immediately started taking over all nighttime stuff with our baby. He didn't make me wake up with her ever because he knew how hard of a time I had sleeping. He took so many days off work to stay home with the kids. He listened to me cry and worry and he took me to all my doctor's appointments.

“I just had never experienced that level of care from him and it made me realize that I did indeed want to be with someone like that forever.”

2) sasspancakes wrote:

“In my situation, on the surface it screamed red flags and people asked me why I'd ever want to put myself through that. My Significant Other's ex was like seven months pregnant when I met him. He told me about it from day one, and just wanted to let me know there was a possibility he was about to have a child. Part of me honestly wanted to run, but part of me was convinced this guy was something special and to give it a chance. His ex was not mentally stable and would not let him come to appointments / birth. She wanted him to terminate his rights so her new boyfriend could be on the birth certificate. Anyway, he was so on top of things, I was impressed. He was already lawyered up and got the ball rolling on custody as soon as possible. He always kept me in the loop, showed me texts and paperwork, etc.

“Fast forward to four months later when he suddenly had to get an emergency custody order and was a full-time dad out of nowhere, and he was amazing. He's so great with his son, and he taught me everything I needed to know about babies.

I was head over heels for his son as soon as I met him. He's a great dad, and I think that makes me fall for him even harder. I love our little family and my Significant Other works so hard to take care of us and make sure we have what we need. So glad I decided to stick it out. Lol.

sasspancakes added, "The way he handled it and talked me through it just spoke volumes to me. I wasn't worried at all; I was actually excited to meet his baby. Lol. The hard part was actually just caring for my stepson; the little guy wouldn't sleep! But working together to take care of him when neither of us really had any experience, really strengthened our relationship. We have never fought about anything, and he never pushes me to do anything I'm not comfortable doing. I think I got the best possible outcome for our scenario and I feel very lucky."

3) itrustain wrote:

"Every single time I've doubted him, he's stepped up and now I don't even doubt him anymore Here's one story because I have a lot!

"One day I got a really bad Urinary Tract Infection. it was really unbearable. I was already stressed. I called him crying at 6am. He was on his way to work. He turned around, called off from work, didn't care if he got fired to take me to the hospital. He was damn near about to carry me to the car. He fed me, took very good care of me, got my meds, took me home and slept with me all day until I felt better. I was actually embarrassed because I was peeing blood. It didn't scare him nor did it push him away.

"He loves the challenge. He loves taking care of me. He genuinely loves it. That's why I love him so much."

4) raptorsniper wrote:

"It was actually the way he stepped *back*, in my case.

“I was only recently broken up with my ex, and while my new partner and I liked one another, I really wasn’t ready to jump right back into relationshiping. I needed some time by myself to figure things out. I told him exactly that, and he responded by saying, ‘Okay, no pressure. I’m here as your friend. Let me know if you want to give it a try at any point.’

“And then he *actually lived up to it*. And not in a weird ‘friendzone’ creepy way, but in a genuine way. So, when I did feel more ready a few months later, I let him know, and we’ve been together ever since. That was in 2009.

“A couple of other men who were also interested did not have the grace to step back and leave me in peace about not sleeping with them, so I stopped speaking to them.”<sup>12</sup>

### **13. “What Is A NSFW [Not Safe For Work] Fun Fact About Yourself?”**

1) shannoncol wrote, “I exclusively prefer small dick ... the smaller the better.”

wonderboyobe asked, “I have to ask since it’s contrary to popular belief, why is that?”

shannoncol answered, “Happy to share! While some women enjoy the pain / fullness of a big dick, I find no pleasure in it. I’d much rather have a small dick so that I get more clitoral stimulation when we’re having sex. It just feels SO much better and feels more like an intimate experience. In my experience, guys with big dicks just rail you for their own

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<sup>12</sup> Source: 12turtledoves, “What are some ways your SO has stepped up for you when you weren’t sure if he was the right one for you?” Reddit. AskWomen. 31 July 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/ov53tw/what\\_are\\_so\\_me\\_ways\\_your\\_so\\_has\\_stepped\\_up\\_for\\_you/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/ov53tw/what_are_so_me_ways_your_so_has_stepped_up_for_you/) >.



pleasure and I get no enjoyment from that. Plus small dick men are often INCREDIBLE at oral for whatever reason.”

2) best\_laidplans wrote, “In the bath, I can suck water into my vagina and squish it back out like two feet. Hubby was horrified.”

best\_laidplans added, “Add to it I look like a crab person when I do it, on my hands and feet but backwards. Also, I have alarmingly good aim with my vagina water-gun.”

best\_laidplans added, “It just looks like a woman forcibly peeing, but clear because it’s water. Short, but strong, high-pressure bursts. This is probably TMI [Too Much Information] but on my cycle, this skill has helped me with hygiene a lot.”

3) REEEEEkid5 wrote, “I masturbate as often as I can.”<sup>13</sup>

#### **14. “Girls, What’s A Hint You Dropped That Was Obvious, But The Guy Just Didn’t Get It?”**

1) frenchmix wrote:

“Asked the guy to come back to my apartment to watch a movie after our first date. Never started the movie because he was so nervous, he got far too excited about a screenprinted poster I had in my living room and wouldn’t stop talking about it. So I offered to let him see the screenprint I had IN MY BEDROOM. We go upstairs, and he starts examining the SECOND screenprinted poster. Finally, I pull him away and go, ‘Can we make out now?’

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<sup>13</sup> Source: Gavinio10, “What is a NSFW fun fact about yourself?” Reddit. AskReddit. 31 July 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/ovbqar/what\\_is\\_a\\_nsfw\\_fun\\_fact\\_about\\_yourself/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/ovbqar/what_is_a_nsfw_fun_fact_about_yourself/)>.

Because I brought you here to make out.’ And finally, he got it.

“Four years and one marriage later, he STILL dies inside when I tell that story.”

frenchmix added, “I have definitely shown off these posters before, but he had me RESEARCHING their background to check screenprinting quality because he was so amazed. That was a real first. (And once my annoyance wore off thanks to some primo making out, I found his reaction both adorable and relatable, as I can totally obsess about things, too.)”

groot\_liga wrote, “As a guy, there is the whole ‘play it cool’ and ‘show her you see her as a person.’ This can come off as more interested in art.”

frenchmix responded, “Totally. He’s a graphic designer who has done screenprinting before, so it wasn’t out of left field (although I didn’t know that at the time). Plus, he always tries to pass the story off as ‘he was a gentleman who didn’t expect anything,’ even though he has openly admitted that he was just oblivious. But honestly? I went in planning for a one-night stand, but this was a major reason I wanted to keep seeing him. It showed that he had many passions that overlapped with mine so we wouldn’t get bored of each other and that he respected my boundaries (that I did not WANT to have, but still). And now, we’ve added his own screenprint to our wall!”

2) Zoethewinged wrote, “A story courtesy of my older brother’s prom night. He had a lesbian friend who asked him if he wanted to go to prom, and he said he didn’t want to because he’d feel awkward. The girl assured him that she and her friends would hang out with him, and constantly asked him to go with her. He ended up going, and later they went to go get some food alone together. They wandered

around the city for a while before stopping in a park and chatting on a bench, all alone, late at night. Eventually, my brother cracks a joke like, ‘Hah, this would be pretty romantic if you weren’t a lesbian, huh?’ And the girl responds, ‘Well, I don’t know if I’m *fully* a lesbian.’ He ended up dropping her off back home and doing nothing else. According to him, it still hurts to think about it to this day.”

3) Mental\_Vacation wrote:

“He was a regular at my work. I baked him cookies, left my phone number on the wrapping, and told him to call me any time to hang out at my house.

“It took two more months of sledgehammers before he got it. We’ve been together 18 years.”

4) munsiemuns wrote:

“Had an amazing first date with an awesome guy. The chemistry was just through the roof. After dinner, he walked me to my car and we just melted into each other. He was just the best kisser — you know the type? The ones who take your face in their hands and just kiss you with their whole soul? Yeah. That was him.

“Anyways, I asked him if he wanted to come back to my place. He sort of pulled back and looked confused and said, ‘Oh, that’s ok. I’m going to head home. Text me when you get home.’ I was so shocked and couldn’t figure out what had happened.

“He called me the next day to schedule a second date and I asked him if it upset him that I had asked him to come home with me. He was surprised and said that he must have missed me asking him back to my place. I reminded him that I had asked him while standing next to my car. He was silent for

about thirty seconds and said, ‘Oh, I thought you asked if I wanted your MySpace handle?’

“At first I thought he was full of shit, but no. We ended up dating for a fair amount of time. Things didn’t work out, but it ended amicably and we always laugh about how he missed out on a night of hot sex on account of MySpace.”

5) Jenny010137 wrote, “All of them. **ALL OF THEM.** I finally just came out and told him how I felt. We were married a year and a half later.”

6) philipTheDev wrote:

“As someone for whom it has on multiple occasions taken literally years to realize that someone was flirting with me, I can definitely say some people are just oblivious.

“Here are some examples, mostly from back when I went to school and was even more oblivious than today.

“Girl said she had looked forwards to changing to my school because she found me so attractive. That she was happy to be in my class as well and that she had talked with her friends about me. I said thanks, thought it was a bit odd but thought nothing of it until years later. The girl in question was definitely attractive and I wouldn’t have minded to date her, but I just didn’t realize that was on the table.

“Girl said she was cold and asked if she could snuggle inside the jacket I wore. I said she could but it would be fine if she wanted to borrow my jacket instead as I wasn’t that cold. She refused, slightly irritated, and said she preferred to share a single jacket instead. I thought: ‘Huh, that’s odd, maybe she just worries that I would be cold or she thinks I am warm.’ Years later my friend who was present asked why the hell I didn’t do anything then or after; that’s when it clicked to me.

“There had been many more times where it took me a good while to realize, probably even more times when I still haven’t. Unless it is explicit, some dense people like me just don’t realize what is going on.”

7) jcpmojo wrote:

“Not a girl, but a guy who missed a hint but didn’t realize until it was too late.

“This was back in probably 1986. I was about 19 and home on leave from the Navy. My younger sister invited some friends over to the house to hang in the basement, shoot some pool, whatever. So I’m sitting on the couch in the basement, and I start talking with this super-hot girl. She’s not a close friend of my sister’s, but she knows all the same people my sister does and got invited by someone else. Anyway, we end up talking all night, and we continue talking until everyone else is gone. At one point she tells me she’s on the pill, and if I want, I can try them out. That’s a pretty obvious way of telling me she wants to have sex with me. Wanna know what my stupid ass thought she meant? That I could take one of her birth control pills. Yep, that’s what I thought. So I tell her, ‘No, that would be weird.’ She eventually realizes I’m not picking up what she’s putting down, and she says she has to get home. It wasn’t until later, as I lay in bed thinking about it, that I realized what she really meant. I think I woke up the whole neighborhood when I smacked myself in the forehead that night.

“I’ve never in my life felt so stupid.

“Edit for clarity: My sister was only a year younger than me, and her friends were all 17 or 18. The girl in question was 18 at the time of this story.”

8) DirePanda072 wrote:

“Am guy, but a girl was dropping major hints for me one time but I didn’t get it.

“Early high school, 9th or 10th grade. She invited me over to her place to study together since we had like half of our classes together. I go over to her house and she tells me that nobody will be home until really late, so it’ll just be the two of us. I responded with ‘Great, no distractions then,’ with a big dumb smile, not getting it. Then she went to her room to change into more comfortable clothes, just to come out in this see-through nightgown thing (not sure what exactly) so I could see her underwear. I just figured that it must be pretty comfortable with me then if she’s willing to wear that sort of thing.

“Then we studied.

“I got out my books.

“And we studied.

“I never even thought anything like that until I said about it to a friend like a week later. He pointed it out, and I just sat there feeling stupid.

“She didn’t talk to me ever again after that.”<sup>14</sup>

## **15. “Women Who Stood Others Up On A Date, What Happened And Why Did You?”**

1) Shallow-ishPuddle wrote:

“I’ve done it only once. I ended up going to the wrong restaurant (didn’t know there were two restaurants with the

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<sup>14</sup> Source: Residential\_Raccoon, “Girls, what’s a hint you dropped that was obvious but the guy just didn’t get it?” Reddit. AskReddit. 1 August 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/ow42no/girls\\_whats\\_a\\_hint\\_you\\_dropped\\_that\\_was\\_obvious/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/ow42no/girls_whats_a_hint_you_dropped_that_was_obvious/) >.

same name in my city) and sent my location to my date saying I'll be maybe 15 minutes longer but I was on my way.

“He got PISSED and called me stupid for assuming I meant THAT restaurant when the ACTUAL restaurant was much fancier.

“So I went home and blocked his number.”

2) alsjdjadsfalk wrote:

“I did it once, although it was more like a meet for one second and bail. I went into the bar and was led to a table. (It was a reservation and he was there first.) He looked nothing like his picture — literally the polar opposite along with a completely different face / height / build (just to clarify before people crucify me, height wasn't a huge consideration but he was probably like five or six inches shorter than what his (?) pics were and what he listed). I just went, ‘I think I have the wrong person,’ and bailed.

“In hindsight, not the nicest thing I did, but I was pretty shook at that moment, blanked, and acted on impulse. I blocked him on everything after partly because I was pissed that he had lied about practically everything on his profile, and partly because I was ashamed of how I acted. LOL.”

3) “Puzzleheaded-Zone572 wrote:

“I was nervous and kinda young, didn't know any better.

“I was in a party and someone approached me and we talked and he seemed nice, but I didn't really wanna a date, but I said yes anyway and on the day of the date I called him and said I would be out of work late that I couldn't make it and he still showed up at my house to pick up me. I was getting into my street and saw his car parked in front of my house, so I drove back to the supermarket and blocked him on everything.

“Actually a few years later, a friend of mine was with him in another party and he still remembered her as my friend and even asked her why I did that.”

4) celestialism wrote:

“The only time I’ve ever done this, it was because the man who asked me out had been so aggressive and insistent while asking me out that I hadn’t felt able to say no. But I didn’t want to go on the date (in part because of his behavior while asking me out), so I just didn’t.

“Fellas, if you want women to be able to give you a clear ‘no,’ the best way to allow that to happen is to accept every ‘no’ immediately, completely, and gracefully. And encourage other men to do the same.”

5) work\_throwaway2019 wrote:

“I ditched my prom date at an after-party because he kept doing that thing where someone repeatedly touches you and massages your shoulders for no reason and then, instead of respecting the discomfort in your body language, tells you stuff like, ‘You need to relax.’

“I just got a weird ‘I expect sex now’ vibe. Simultaneously, there was a small window of opportunity to run off to a smaller party with some of my friends and watch while they got stoned and listened to Ween, so I took it. I got to stay out all night on prom night and feel rebellious, without a bunch of pressure to do something I didn’t want to do. Unfortunately, I didn’t even tell him I was leaving and just slipped away from the party without any lead-up or warning.



“I don’t regret it, but I do wish I had handled it more maturely and been more upfront with him. He definitely wasn’t my biggest fan after that, lol, which I understand!”<sup>15</sup>

## 16. “What Are Your Funniest Bad Date Stories?”

1) help\_me\_do\_stuff wrote:

“The man and I were talking for a couple weeks before we met. He asked me a few times, ‘What are you looking for?’ My profile said I was looking for hopefully something serious and long term, but I figured that maybe he might be talking to more people than just me before we met, so I kept answering.

“Over an hour into our first meeting, he asked me what I’m looking for again, so I tell him. He says that because I’ve been nice enough to answer all of his other questions, that he should be honest with me that he has a girlfriend. I ask him what this is about, why are we wasting each other’s time? He says he *thinks* she’s cheating, so it’s apparently okay if he does. Then he goes on to tell me about other recent dates he’s had that resulted in hookups.

“At this point I’m just smiling and nodding because the story is getting really interesting, even though I already know it’s not going to be a match, I’m just enjoying the ride until the bill comes so we can pay and I can go. Finally on our way out, he asks me before we’re even out the door, ‘So you’re telling me that you don’t want to be a side piece?’

“I wasn’t even mad. I just couldn’t believe he asked it.”

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<sup>15</sup> Source: psych0ticmonk, “Women who stood others up on a date, what happened and why did you?” Reddit. AskWomen. 3 August 2021 <  
[https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/oxauai/women\\_who\\_stood\\_others\\_up\\_on\\_a\\_date\\_what\\_happened/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/oxauai/women_who_stood_others_up_on_a_date_what_happened/)>.

2) pearlsbeforedogs wrote:

“So right after my divorce, I was feeling wild since I had always been a good girl. I signed up for Tinder, got some matches, and started chatting. First guy to really catch my eye looked very cute in his profile pictures, and over text he seemed interesting and good at holding a conversation. So we agree to meet up! We set a time and date, and the day of, I start heading out. I live about 45 minutes away from his town, which is bigger than mine, so on my way I call and ask where I should meet him. He says his place because he doesn’t own a car. We live in Texas, and most people here have a car of some kind. Small alarm bell there, but he had hippie vibes so I kind of brush it off. I ask what he wants to get to eat because I’m hungry. He already ate. Alarm bell number 2, and I’m pretty irritated by this one. So I say I’m gonna grab some food before I come over. I take my time at a Taco Joint. I’ve never gone to someone’s home first, but I’m feeling crazy and think I’ll play it by ear and if I feel nervous I’ll jet. Not like he can come after me with no car.

“I get there and wait in the car for him to come out and greet me. This gives me a sense of safety that I can see if he matches his profile before I even get out of my vehicle. So far, so good. Handshakes, short hug, nice to meet you... ok, we go in and start chatting. At first the convo is good, but he’s definitely hogging it a little. I learn he is selling CBD [cannabidiol] stuff and if I’m interested he’ll get me into it, but he’s not overly pushy so ok. We talk about a mutual love of filtered water and health food. Then it starts to get weird, and he starts giving off some Rainman vibes. He turns the TV on to the Golfing channel and just goes off. I appreciate a man with passion, but boy howdy do I hate Golf. I need some nicotine so we go to the little patio and he then goes off on Jeeps, which he used to have but doesn’t now because it’s cheaper to Uber wherever he needs to go if it’s not in

biking distance. We go back in. Now for the truly chaotic weirdness.

“He starts telling me about his ex-girlfriend. About how they never had sex. About how much he liked her butt. Like seriously detailed stuff but mentioning the never having sex part a LOT. Time for me to go! I thank him for a lovely evening and say bye then jet to my car. I stop at a bar to drink with some friends because I need one after that. And the texting begins. I’m trying to politely tell him it won’t work out, but he just wants to talk about his ex-girlfriend. Then, he sends a picture. OF HER NAKED ASS. Yup. You read that right. He sent me a picture of his cute red-headed ex-girlfriend’s naked butt. I tell him it’s inappropriate and he should NOT be sharing those pictures with ANYONE. So then he sends me a dick pic. Blocked.”

3) BBVIP21 wrote:

“He insisted to take me out on a date, and so for dinner he suggested a sushi place about 30 mins away from our area. (We both live on the same side of the city.) When it was time to pay, he ‘forgot’ his card. All right, sure, no problem, I’ll pay. I don’t mind. But for the first time ever, I did not have my card either. LOL. We then told the servers that we’ll be back to pay. (I left my license with them.)

“So he drove allllll the way back to our area, drove past HIS house, and drove straight to MY house. So I can get MY wallet, I assume. So I did.

“Anyways we of course drove allllll the way back to the restaurant so I can pay for the bill. So yeah, I left it at that and never bothered to contact him back again. LOL.”

4) SleepFlower80 wrote:

“I got set up on a blind date. We were texting for a bit before the date but this was before camera phones (I’m so old!) so

we weren't able to swap photos or anything, so I literally went into this date blind. He'd told me he was 6'2" so I was expecting a giant given that I'm 5'.

"The man who rocked up was shorter than me, but he accused *me* of lying about my height. It was the most surreal conversation I've ever had on a date, and we didn't even see out the rest of the date because he said he couldn't date a liar. I still chuckle about it now."

5) MidnightFireHuntress wrote:

"Met a guy on OkCupid. (I was 24, he was 25.) He brought his fucking MOM to the date. She dropped him off and then sat with us for lunch, it was so awkward, she was nice and everything but he would text me things DURING THE DATE like, 'She's my best friend, please don't be mad.'

"It was so freaking awkward the first thing I did when I got home was laugh so hard I could barely stand."

6) cambiokeys wrote:

"It was the third date with this guy I met on some app. The first two dates were a little rocky, but he was nice enough and patient, so I figured I'd give it one more shot before throwing in the towel.

"We met at a tea place in Midtown and sat outside. The sun was glaring, so I pulled my sunglasses out of my purse and put them on as I continued discussing the prior night out with my friends. We eventually walked around the edge of Central Park to a movie theatre about ten blocks up and as we're going up the elevator, some guys who were going down the opposite side were looking and smiling at me, which gave me a big confidence boost.

"After the movie, I go to the bathroom to discover I had BLUE PEN ALL OVER MY FACE! A pen exploded in my

purse and perfectly lined the bottom of my sunglasses. I did my best to remove it, laughing, and then was like ... WHY DIDNT HE SAY ANYTHING! I could get over not saying anything about spinach in your teeth or something, but letting me walk around in public for TWO HOURS before the movie with ink all over my face!

“At that point I was completely comfortable letting this one [this man] go. We said goodbye outside the movie theatre and when he asked what my plans were for the rest of the night, I told him I was going to go to Whole Foods before hopping on the train to go home. He insisted on coming with me, trolling slightly behind as I tossed some usual items into a basket and checked out.

“He walked me to my train platform. The train was two minutes away (pulling into the station), but he insisted I wait for the next one which was five minutes away. That one got delayed to 12 minutes. About three minutes before the train came, he decided this hot, smelly New York City subway station was where he should plant the first kiss on a girl with grocery bags in both hands and remnants of blue ink on her face. To make matters worse, he did that jabby thing with his tongue and his breath smelled like warm tuna salad.

“I did not miss the next train. I send the ‘maybe let’s just be friends’ text before the train was fully out of the station.”

7) zenfulray wrote:

“I was having a great night with this guy and at the end of the night he walked me to my car. He wanted to sit in the car with me, which I found odd but whatever. Then he pulls me onto his lap to make out, which felt odd as an adult but again ... whatever.

“Now the following day he calls me informing me that since we stayed up so late last night, and he had to work so early the next day, he wore the same jeans from our date to work

that morning. What he did not realize, and to my absolute horror, I had started my period while sitting on him in the car. He did not notice until his colleagues pointed out the stain on his pants.

“Welcome to my horror story of a life.”

8) Enchiridion5 wrote:

“It was a first date. I had suggested a cute place to get some coffee. When we arrived, it turned out to be completely full. No matter, there was another nice place nearby. He rejected it, because it was ‘too far away.’ I was stunned because it was just down the street. We could see it from where we were standing. Less than a ONE-minute walk.

“We went to a cafe even closer. The date itself was not that bad, but it became clear that we were not a good match. When we asked for the bill, he immediately insisted we split. I prefer that, too, but the total was only 4.20 euros (about \$5, we had one soft drink each). It seemed a bit silly to me to split that, so I happily offered to pay for both of us and handed the server a 5 euro bill. What was funny to me was that while I was paying, he came up from behind and gave me a 2 euro coin, proudly saying: ‘That should cover it!’ Lol.”

9) Greenboots82 wrote:

“I went on a date with a man who was obnoxious right off the bat. Bragged non-stop about his car and was rude to the waitress. This man ordered a Turkey Club with EXTRA, EXTRA mayo with a cup of mayo on the side. He proceeded to eat his Mayo Club while dipping Mayo Club in said bowl of mayo. It was raining mayo at this point. Mayo all over his hands and the corners of his mouth. I was shocked and embarrassed. The waitress was shocked. It was awful.

“I also went on a date once with a guy who picked me up and swung me in a full circle upon seeing me. Set me down and patted the top of my head. Told me how excited he was to see how cute and little I was. I walked back to my car and left.”<sup>16</sup>

### **17. “What Were Your First Thoughts When You Met Your Current / Previous Significant Other?”**

The Original Poster added, “Or what kind of feeling/intuition did you have about that person when you first spoke to them?”

1) KnockMeYourLobes wrote:

“‘Oh my god. What a *nerd*.’

“He came into class with his hair (which was down to his shoulders) all blown around like crazy from driving in his convertible with the top down. He had these ugly glasses with crazy thick lenses, because he was damn near functionally blind without them. He had on a gimme teeshirt with the name of some internet company with the phone number 1-800-Be-A-Geek on it and it looked like he’d slept in it.

“The kicker? He was carrying a fucking BRIEFCASE, which I had never seen anyone under the age of like 40 or outside of a TV show do before. (He was 21 at the time.) He sat down and pulled out a laptop. This was in 1996, so the thing was a giant ass gray brick.

“On top of that, he was so skinny, it was ridiculous. I’d never seen a guy so skinny he looked almost like he was starving,

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<sup>16</sup> Source: totallibra, “What are your funniest bad date stories?” Reddit. AskWomen. 4 August 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/oy8ouf/what\\_are\\_you\\_r\\_funniest\\_bad\\_date\\_stories/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/oy8ouf/what_are_you_r_funniest_bad_date_stories/) >.

even though he still lived at home with his upper middle class parents and younger sister. It was just so bizarre to me.

“Eventually, we got to know each other, seeing as we were in the same class (Tech theater) and had to work together (we were doing *Little Shop of Horrors* for the first fall production that year) and I sort of ... started to like him. I was actually sorta dating another guy at the time, but the guy I was dating was kind of a flake.

“Hubs and I started spending more and more time together and I realized I really, REALLY liked him. He took me to see *That Thing You Do* on our first date and we’ve been together ever since, which I just realized has been 25 years.”

2) Wolfdreama wrote:

“Ooh, he has tattoos and likes heavy metal! He’s a keeper!”

“Seventeen years later — I kept him. :)”

3) eichhoernchen wrote, “I found him so handsome, my heart was aching if I looked at him. Also, couldn’t focus at all on the conversation if I was looking at his face while talking. After three years, it’s gotten better, but I still think he’s absolutely gorgeous.”

4) Apprehensive\_Maybe13 wrote:

“I think he is lost.’

“Five minutes later, he passes by me for the sixth time.’

“He is totally lost.”

5) lookingforaforest wrote, “I thought he was too hot to like me back. But we’re married now!”

bbspiders wrote, “That’s how I felt about my partner, too. I was shocked when he asked me out again after we had already slept together because I thought for sure it was just



going to be a one-night stand because he was too hot to actually want to date me. Been together 10 years now!”

6) Not\_a\_cat\_I\_promise wrote:

“I was seven when we first met, he threw a ball near me, I picked it up and we started playing. I thought he seemed nice, and I was hoping I’d made a friend. He had these big noticeable brown eyes that I was fascinated by.

“I did make a friend that day, and more than ten years later he became more than a friend. And now we’re engaged.”

7) wannabeapankhurst wrote, “‘He’s so beautiful.’ I tried to initiate the conversation, it was awkward, he barely answered, so I asked him if he wanted to sleep at my place RIGHT AWAY and he said yes. The conversation was easier after sex. More than a year after we moved in together, and I appreciate EVERYTHING about him; he’s the nicest person I’ve ever met. He even sings little songs to my dog.”

8) novascotia3898 wrote, “When I met my first boyfriend, I remember saying, ‘He’s nice, but there’s no way I’ll date him.’ We ended up together for 6+ years and that’s still a funny memory for me. When I met my current boyfriend, I was going on a few first dates here and there and had a good time but politely turned him down saying that I felt a connection with someone else. That ended up lasting all of three weeks. I gave it a shot and asked my current boyfriend back out again, and we’re still going strong! He’s never going to let me forget that he wasn’t my first pick at one point, though. Haha!”

9) passionkiller711 wrote, “I was automatically super comfortable around him. Felt like an old friend I hadn’t seen in a while. He was soaking wet because it was pouring rain, but I gave him a hug anyways. I just felt like this was going to be a good thing. This is a good person. What a great, bright personality. I want to be around this person more.”

10) msstark wrote:

“Ohhh, cute! If he wants to kiss me, I’ll definitely let him.’

“Then I got more and more drunk and he eventually put on a beanie (it was cold and we were about to go outside), so I started to get paranoid that he might be underage. He was 33.”

11) TheRecklessOne wrote:

“I started a new job where the previous managing director had left the week before.

“I knew that the guy who left was the same age as me (24 at the time), and my mind was a little bit blown that someone could be in charge of an entire company at my age. Figured he must be an absolute genius and was generally quite impressed. All the staff kept telling me stories about him and I learned that as well as being young and a genius, he was very well liked.

“A couple months after I started, a few staff members were going on a little day trip and invited the old managing director along. He picked us up from the office and we just jumped straight in the car. So I’m looking at the back of this guy’s head and thinking, ‘Oh, man, I’m finally meeting this genius,’ fully expecting some serious business-y type dude.

“Then he starts the car and 21 Pilots starts playing and I’m thinking ‘Okay, not what I expected. That’s cool.’ And then we got on the motorway and he got confused about North and South and I thought, ‘Oh, fuck, this dude is exactly my combination of genius and dumb.’

“We’ve now been together five years, and I enjoy the moments where other people obviously have the first impression of him as a serious business-y type person and then he introduces me as his girlfriend and at any given

moment I either look like a total hippy or an extra in an Avril Lavigne video and you see them have that ‘Okay, not what I expected’ moment.”<sup>17</sup>

## **18. “Single Women, When Did You Just Stop Dating Or Looking For An Intimate Relationship Because It’s More Trouble Than It’s Worth?”**

1) Bebe\_Bleau wrote:

“I gave up a couple of years ago when my dear fiancé passed away.

“I’m a very young 72. I’m afraid I’ve aged out of the dating game. I’m very active and enjoy outdoors and physical activity. I seem to fit in best with men in their 50s

“The average 72-year-old man is too sedentary and in poor health for me. Some aren’t, but most men seem to feel entitled to someone 10 years younger at least. So men my age are chasing women in their 50s.

“I pass for 50s and date some. But all expectations of finding someone are pretty much gone. I approach active men in their 60s and 70s. I get approached by 50s and younger men and simply don’t give my age. I don’t lie because of the old crap cliché of ‘what else I might be lying about’ (even though most of them are lying about their height because we ALL lie about unimportant stuff). But they can easily find my age on the net.

“I have carefully picked out a couple of men who are pretty good FWB [Friends With Benefits]. These guys are not looking for LTR [Long-Term Relationship] either, will take

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<sup>17</sup> Source: viitaiainen, “What were your first thoughts when you met your current/previous SO?” Reddit. AskWomen. 6 August 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/oz3tbq/what\\_were\\_your\\_first\\_thoughts\\_when\\_you\\_met\\_your/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/oz3tbq/what_were_your_first_thoughts_when_you_met_your/) >.

me out, and really are good friends that I could count on. No commitment. But I'm open to commitment if I happen to meet The One.

“So, I have fun, a good sex life, escorts to parties, and friends. I'd say that's pretty good for my age. I tell myself the truth, enjoy what I can of life, and do my best with what I have to work with.”

RodeTheMidnightTrain commented:

“First, my sincerest condolences on the passing of your fiancé.

“I needed to see this today. I'm fast approaching 50 and also most people don't think I'm nearly as old as I am and are usually surprised when they find out how old my kids are. That being said, thank you for sharing that about your life.

“Not going to elaborate much on the subject but to say I've definitely been struggling with my relationship and the progress of it all and maybe it's a mental health / midlife / identity type crisis.

“Objectively I know that everyone's life path and journey is different and that that's totally okay and I'm not remotely judgmental about anyone's 'accomplishments' or milestones or lack thereof at any given age. BUT it is very hard when a lot of my friends have been married upwards of 25 years already and I got divorced almost that long ago and haven't remarried yet.

“Basically yes, I do have a great sex life, but it's encouraging to know that can still continue many years into my future even if who I thought was The One turns out to not be The One. The loneliness can be crushing at times but again thank you for reminding me that there is fun and sex to be had for many years to come. Not ready to become a crazy old cat lady just yet.”

2) FeatherLuck wrote, “Valentine’s Day this year. Broke up with the guy after he told me he wasn’t in love with me. Cried my eyes out but woke up the next day with the anxiety pit I’d carried the whole relationship GONE. Decided I don’t want to do that anymore, adopted a cat, quit wearing makeup and am hustling to pay my house off in six years. I got better things to do with my time than try to get attention from anyone.”

3) lizzieb77 wrote, “I’ve taken several breaks before. Dating is just draining. When I absolutely dread going out no matter how promising the guy might seem, I know it’s time to take some time off.”

\_summersunset\_ commented, “Yes! I also have taken several breaks (will just be exhausted and either pause or delete accounts) and this is a great indicator for me though I hadn’t summed it up as succinctly. Basically, I look at my calendar and just feel exhausted about the idea of scheduling in a date. That’s when it’s time to take a break, as you said. And I’m kinda there right now. Not due to bad experiences, just ... it’s so draining. Lol.”<sup>18</sup>

## **19. “When Was The Last Time You Told Someone You Love Them?”**

Ahshalon\_Tenisk wrote:

“Last night.

“I told my daughter I loved her and I was proud of her.

“She asked me if I was dying.”

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<sup>18</sup> Source: lonelyengineer123, “Single women, when did you just stop dating or looking for an intimate relationship because it’s more trouble than it’s worth?” Reddit. AskWomen. 7 August 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/ozg8w0/single\\_women\\_when\\_did\\_you\\_just\\_stop\\_dating\\_or/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/ozg8w0/single_women_when_did_you_just_stop_dating_or/) >.

vbc83 commented:

“Lol. That’s perfect. My daughter is three. Every night before bed I tell her I love her and one thing from the day that made me feel proud of her.

“She’s quite lovey at this age and I really want to capitalize on it before the teen years hit!”<sup>19</sup>

## **20. “When Did You Realise You Were Attractive?”**

1)jdward01 wrote, “When a girl straight up told me. She was like, ‘You should really be more confident; all my friends think you’re hot.’”

DerrickIsSugar wrote, “My girlfriend told me after a social event with her friends, ‘Don’t let it get to your big-ass head but \_\_\_’s little sister pulled me off and said, ‘Girl, he’s fine.’ That shit indeed got to my big-ass head.”

2)spunkypoodle wrote, “I realized it years later looking back at old photos. Wish I took advantage of it at the time.”

PieApprehensive7763 wrote, “I was in a relationship for nine years from high school throughout. I never got hit on and never had luck with girls before I met my ex-wife. But after she left me, I got flooded with ‘I used to have a big crush on you’ messages.”

livingmayhem commented, “Someone once told me, ‘I wasted all my skinny years thinking I was fat,’ and I think about that a lot.”

biscuitboi967 commented, “Same. I remember being so self-conscious and too afraid to flirt with guys because I was so

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<sup>19</sup> Source: Ride\_A\_Harley, “When was the last time you told someone you love them?” Reddit. AskReddit. 8 August 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/p0el70/when\\_was\\_the\\_last\\_time\\_you\\_told\\_someone\\_you\\_love/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/p0el70/when_was_the_last_time_you_told_someone_you_love/) >.

sure they would laugh at the ugly girl trying to hit on them. I looked back at some pics a few weeks ago, and I was ADORABLE. I hate that I wasted all that time hating parts of myself and not just enjoying being young and moderately attractive.”

Nixon\_jeans advised biscuitboi967 (but it’s good advice for everyone), “Live life like a hot person so ten years from now you don’t go through the same regret. :)”

Majikkani\_Hand commented, “Caught a photo of my teenage self and went, ‘DAMN. I could have pulled off ALL the fashion choices.’”

3) Imao\_my\_a5s\_off wrote, “When my grandma said I looked cute.”

weliveinagalaxy commented, “My grandma is my hypeman.”

calamitouscamembert commented, “WingGran is sometimes overzealous, though.”

StructuralFailure commented, “If only the girls knew how handsome my grandma thinks I am.”<sup>20</sup>

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<sup>20</sup> Source: weliveinagalaxy, “When did you realise you were attractive?” Reddit. AskReddit. 8 August 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/p0crhs/when\\_did\\_you\\_realise\\_you\\_were\\_attractive/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/p0crhs/when_did_you_realise_you_were_attractive/) >.

## Chapter 2: Stories 21-40

### 21. “What Was The Best Marriage Proposal You’ve Heard About Or Witnessed?”

1) Andee\_SC2 wrote:

“My own ... my husband didn’t officially ‘propose.’ He showed me the engagement ring and asked if I wanted to make our relationship ‘more permanent.’

“Twenty-seven years later, still going strong.”

2) localgyro wrote, “Two friends of mine. They’d been dating for years, and both had sort of felt the other out about getting married, and they decided to go out to dinner and talk it out, to discuss what that would mean for each of them, how they were feeling, what they wanted out of marriage. At the end of the dinner, they were engaged. :)”

3) SleepFlower80 wrote, “Can I say my own? I came home from work and the living room was full of suitcases. I immediately panicked and thought he was leaving. He said, ‘No, we’re going away for the weekend. I’m not telling you where, just pack warm clothes.’ I kept asking for hints or clues but he refused. Following morning, we get picked up at 2am and taken to the airport. Only then did he tell me we were going to Iceland. He’d booked the most amazing little cabin with a huge glass wall and glass roof so we could lie in bed and watch the Aurora Borealis. It was incredible. The second night, he booked snowmobiles out into the tundra to watch the Aurora and that’s where he proposed. It was so magical.”<sup>21</sup>

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<sup>21</sup> Source: Alternate-57, “What was the best marriage proposal you’ve heard about or witnessed?” Reddit. AskWomen. 8 August 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/p0sv9j/what\\_was\\_the\\_best\\_marriage\\_proposal\\_youve\\_heard/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/p0sv9j/what_was_the_best_marriage_proposal_youve_heard/) >.



## 22. “Women Of Reddit, What Helped You To Push Through Shame Around Sensuality?”

1) UnderThatLight wrote:

“Kinkiness and power dynamic play helped me.

“And the fact that I have given too much to this world not to enjoy the gift of multiple orgasm that I was given.”

2) pocket\_Ninja456 wrote, “Seeing other women who are on the other side. It’s a tough situation to want something but not know if it’s ok to pursue because the social pressure is so strong. Seeing women enjoy sex and intimate contact helps me give myself permission to seek it myself.”

3) ducksthefucks wrote, “I’ve been writing for almost 20 years. I finally decided to self-publish some of my work but at the same time I wanted a book that was eye catching. I always write about female empowerment but for the first time I wrote about female sexual empowerment. Which in turn took me to Instagram to promote my book so I started writing about sex there, too, which took me to the online kink / sex community. The more I wrote, the more I accepted and understood my sexuality, the more empowered I felt and the less shame / stigma I saw in being a sexual woman.”

4) GrizzlyMommaMT wrote, “My mom. She was very open about what a woman should expect and how women should get pleasure out of sexual relations. Thinking back now, I think she was more concerned about me and my sisters getting into either a selfish or an abusive relationship and not realizing it, but it still helped me because most of our family was really open.”<sup>22</sup>

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<sup>22</sup> Source: loadofbarba66, “Women of Reddit, what helped you to push through shame around sensuality?” Reddit. AskWomen. 8 August 2021 <

### 23. “How Was Your First Kiss And How Were You Feeling?”

1) Absolver5000 wrote, “It was my first girlfriend in HS [High School], and we had been hanging out at my place for maybe the second time ever. My dad drove us back to her place to drop her off (I was a freshman, no license yet) and it was snowing. I got out of the car to say goodnight. I remember the giant soft snowflakes landing on her hair and she leaned in and gave me a gentle kiss on the lips. I tell you I died and went to heaven. I don’t even remember the trip back to my house. Man, I was gone. Walking around school the next day like I had a 12” D [Dick]. Pass my friends like, ‘See ya later, virgins. I’m on the express train to Coolsville.’”

2) jephistopheles wrote, “Super awkward. She knew what she was doing. I did not. Afterwards she noticed that my eyes were open and told me only psychos kiss with their eyes open. So then I asked for more tips. Thus began a long series of lessons on how to kiss and touch and fuck. I’m really quite thankful she took the time to demystify the female body for me. She was thankful she got to mold the perfect lover. Win, win.”

3) Neat\_Remote8084 wrote, “We both liked each other. Used to hug and cuddle for fun. One day, sitting in a restaurant, both of us turn to each other at the same time and our lips brush against each other. We look at each other for a moment, pay the bill, get up and just smash our lips once we’re in the lift. It was the most exciting and romantic thing I’d ever done. Left the place giddy and touching my lips every 10 seconds.”

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[https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/p0p88c/women\\_of\\_reddit\\_what\\_helped\\_you\\_to\\_push\\_through/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/p0p88c/women_of_reddit_what_helped_you_to_push_through/)>.

4) alittlesickinthehead wrote, "I was a freshman in college. It was Halloween night. I was dressed like a ninja. We were underage drinking in a bar. (Slipping the bouncer \$5 did the trick, at least for guys.) I leaned over, kissed a friend of mine, told her she was my first kiss, kissed her again, then vomited on the floor of the bar. We left before I was brutally murdered by the bouncer."

5) ChewyMagoo22 wrote, "My first kiss was with my now-husband. He missed. Let's just say we have both gotten a lot better."

6) GunyGalvan88 wrote, "Awful! Ha! I was 13, he stuck his tongue inside my mouth and moved it like crazy, his friends were across the street watching. A couple of weeks later, found out he was 'seeing' other girls at the same time so I punched him on the nose."

7) thrashingkaiju wrote, "Quick. It was in a Truth or Dare game, and I was so surprised that she actually went through with it that I think my brain made an audible Windows restart sound."

8) RepresentativeNo3966 wrote, "It was great. Went from being shown a provocative outfit, then a kiss, then making out, and then I got laid. 10/10 would do again."

9) zerbey wrote, "A girl I'd liked for a long time confessed she liked me, too, and in a moment of teenage passion I leaned in to kiss her and ... lost my nerve and awkwardly kissed her on the cheek instead. Not to worry, we dated for the rest of the Summer and I got plenty of proper make-out sessions during that time. After the romantic relationship ended, we remained friends for years afterwards."

10) LucyVialli wrote, "Sloppy and petrified."

11) groundsgonesour wrote, “Adorable. It was literally with the girl next door when we were five-ish.”<sup>23</sup>

## **24. “Students Of Reddit, What Was The Weirdest Thing The Quiet Kid Done?”**

i\_make\_frogs\_slime wrote, “Our sophomore year in high school, he started a female sex toy business. The item was ordered online, money was transferred online, and item was picked up behind our school. This led to nobody knowing who was behind this. Then once the school staff heard about this they tried for at least a quarter of the school year to catch this kid and they couldn’t. Eventually, they had a teacher purchase a 12-inch vibrating dildo, and the principal did a stake out to catch him. They did, and his only excuse was that it was ‘good money.’ The best part of the whole story is that my mom who works at the school system said that apparently the teacher they sent in undercover never returned the massive dildo.”<sup>24</sup>

## **25. “Men Of Reddit, What Is A Great Sex Tip You Have To Share With Other Men Of Reddit?”**

1) Tinstam wrote:

“Helping a woman finish is usually more about rhythm than force. If you struggle with rhythm, try putting on music with decent bass.

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<sup>23</sup> Source: ur\_onii\_chan, “How was your first kiss and how were you feeling?” Reddit. AskReddit. 9 August 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/p132p5/how\\_was\\_your\\_first\\_kiss\\_and\\_how\\_were\\_you\\_feeling/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/p132p5/how_was_your_first_kiss_and_how_were_you_feeling/) >.

<sup>24</sup> Source: Blite0, “Students off reddit what Was the weirdest thing the quiet kid done?” Reddit. AskReddit. 9 August 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/p1bbkm/students\\_off\\_reddit\\_what\\_was\\_the\\_weirdest\\_thing/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/p1bbkm/students_off_reddit_what_was_the_weirdest_thing/) >.

“If she starts breathing hard, twisting around, or especially says, ‘I’m close,’ change nothing! Changing things at this point can be very effective, but it’s also complicated, and usually requires a good amount of communication. If you are looking for sex tips, start there: Change nothing when she is close.

“Try to focus on your partner, exclusively. Many people are hyper aware during sex. They can tell if you aren’t really paying attention. It’s not a good feeling.

“If you are self-conscious about finishing fast, find out what you need to get to round 2. (Protein shake? Cuddling?) And talk about this with your partner. Many women *like* the idea that they can make their partner finish fast. They also like to finish as well. The simplest solution here is to have sex twice. If you struggle to have sex twice in a short time period, keep in mind that penis-in-vagina sex is often the worst way to help a woman finish. Learn to give good head.

“Stop being self-conscious about your dick. There really are cons to a big dick, and pros to a small one. And the only reason to really care about its size is because of how it affects your partner. Your pleasure has nothing to do with your size. Even if you have a micro-dick, seriously, stop worrying. Your best bets to helping a woman finish are, in order, your words, your tongue, your hands, then your dick. You can learn to use all four better. You can’t make your dick bigger. If none of that can help you stop fussing about it, consider that confidence is itself attractive. Even being self-deprecating about your dick (which is still healthier than most people’s relationship with their dick) is not confident behavior.

“A lot of this [is] ‘chase your partner’s pleasure more than your own.’ Keep in mind that they should be doing the same thing! If you feel like your partner doesn’t care about your pleasure, talk about it! Guys can also have bad sex.

“The single best tip for sex is often the hardest, due to how we tend to treat sex: communicate!”

AyeWhy commented, “Great advice, I would only add don’t be afraid to laugh. Sex can be funny at times, share the laughs, it will deepen the experience for both of you. Remember it’s meant to be fun!”

2) RickMoneyRS wrote:

“Use all, particularly the flat part, of your tongue. Not just the tip. More pleasurable for her, less tiring for you.

“Also, light sucking works wonders.”

Cleverusername531 wrote, “Yes. Google Nina Hartley instructions. It’s NSFW, but her instructions are incredible.”

AmbitiousZucchini93 commented, “Woman here! Can confirm the sucking takes us to other worlds!”

3) theshrexpert wrote, “If she gives you advice during, do not take it personally. It isn’t an attack on your abilities but a way to make it more enjoyable for both of you.”

trogdan commented, “Exactly. She wouldn’t be saying anything unless she was comfortable, trusted you, and wanted to be better connected physically.”

Keachy\_Plean commented, “This! I’ve had so many men just stop because they take it so deeply personally. And I’m just like, ‘If I didn’t like you, I wouldn’t be attempting to give you advice or ask for something different. I’d just leave.’”

4) Copper857 wrote, “Literally the *only* thing it takes to be decent in bed, in my experience, is to pay attention to how your partner responds to things. Keep trying different things until you find something that they clearly (you’ll know it

when you see it) enjoy, then keep doing more of that. That's genuinely all there is to it."

JaQ\_In\_Chains wrote, "The old 'squeeze my shoulder if something feels really good' works wonders for shy partners, too."

5) tdasnowman wrote, "Talk to your partner about what they like."

AnthrallicA commented:

"Also what they don't like. Only thing worse than not properly pleasing someone is straight up killing the mood by doing something they don't like. I used to date a woman who had two big no-go rules and that was it. Everything else was on the table, including on the table. Lol."

"The level of communication comes down to the individual and the circumstances in my experience. A lot of Craigslist Casual Encounters were great because we both knew the only goal was mutual gratification. In those instances I found most women were very forthright with their likes / dislikes. Any time it was a romantic interest, there was a much higher chance of both of us kind of keeping the freak flag furled until we knew we wouldn't scare the other one off. Lol."

6) BloodandSpit wrote, "Tip from my dad. If you're going down on a girl for the first time and you inevitably get hair in your mouth, don't spit it out as it kills the mood, instead lick her upper inner thigh to get it off your tongue."

7) grenlick33 wrote, "When she says, 'Just like that,' that's what she means."<sup>25</sup>

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<sup>25</sup> Source: pirobinha, "Men of reddit, what is a great sex tip you have to share with other men of reddit?" Reddit. AskReddit. 10 August 2021 <

## 26. “Women Who Regretted Ending A Relationship After Some Months Or Years Later, Why Do You Regret It?”

1) throwawayBS82BG wrote:

“I have always regretted it because I loved him back with all my heart and was too proud to tell him. Because I wanted more time with him and I thought he was not entirely serious when he said he loved me. Even when we were half asleep and his breath was pressed into the nape of my neck and I heard him say it. I sent him away because I wanted him to be free. I wanted him only of his own free will not because he felt beholden or obliged to me.

“Thirty-five years ago this summer, and I still remember how he smelled, and tasted. I still remember the look on his face when told me about the time he got the tattoo on his forearm and his father’s reaction over it.

“I’ve worried so for him since this pandemic. He’ll be 69 the 23rd of this month. After all this time, I still remember his birthday. I have such anxiety when I see the COVID numbers rising and rising. I want him to still be in the world alive and well. My heart would be broken all over again if he has not made it.

“I’ll always regret not telling him I loved him. I have loved him every day since. I will go down my grave with this hole in my heart.”

TropicalPrairie commented:

“This comment is beautiful. I’m sorry it worked out that way.

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[https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/p1t0ky/men\\_of\\_reddit\\_what\\_is\\_a\\_great\\_sex\\_tip\\_you\\_have\\_to/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/p1t0ky/men_of_reddit_what_is_a_great_sex_tip_you_have_to/) >.



“Even though we think they don’t, I do believe our old loves reminisce about us as well. There will always be that energy there. That is the beauty of love. It’s so cliché, but I always like to think of the sentence ‘Don’t be sad it ended; be thankful it happened.’”

AdministrativeAd1911 commented, “Oh they do reminisce about us. My parents got divorced over 20 years ago. Both still ask us (their children) about the other and have expressed regrets over the divorce.”

tangerinelibrarian wrote:

“My grandparents divorced when my mom and aunts were still young, but they shared custody and were amicable. My grandma married and divorced four more times, and my grandpa never remarried. They were best friends for as long as I knew them. I didn’t know they weren’t married for the longest time growing up. They did everything together basically and you could see the love they still shared. I asked my grandma once when I was nine or ten why they didn’t just get married again, and she told me they were too old for all that now.

“She passed away when I was in college, and my grandpa died less than a year later. The whole family believes it was from his broken heart.”

2) kylienotjenner29 wrote, “I regretted it years later because we’d both grown so much in similar ways. When I ran into them and decided to catch up, it seemed like we just clicked better than we ever did when we were together. I was left wondering if the chemistry was there all along and we were too young and dumb to see it or if it was due to us growing up.”

3) kademelien wrote, “I ended my first two relationships after about two years because I thought I don’t love them enough. After years of staying mostly single, dating a few

times and self-reflection, I realised those first two would have worked, if I had the knowledge and the self-esteem from future-me. So I still think it was for the best, to grow up on my own, but still regret what I have lost and can never regain.”

4) CosmicConfusion94 wrote, “I feel like this about my most recent ex. Some other things blew our relationship up and we both had a lot of growing up to do, but I remember feeling like I should love him more. Now that we’re not together, I realize I loved him a ton, but I didn’t love myself enough.”

5) bradspitts wrote, “I regret it because I know I still love him, and I knew at the time I still loved him but I went ahead and did it anyway because I thought it was for the best because it felt like we were at different stages in our lives and lots of little things made me think I was better off single and that those things would never change. I think about how things could have been and how we could’ve grown together and matured in the relationship. I guess I’ll never know if it would’ve worked out in the end and I get sad thinking about where we would be in our lives now if we were still together. We probably would be engaged at least or maybe have a baby. We would have been together 12 years now if I hadn’t ended things. I think about him every day and I always worry that something bad will happen and it’ll break my heart and he’ll never know how I felt still.”

6) AnnaAeneal3 wrote, “I regretted leaving my first real relationship. It lasted for four years and was one of the most healthy relationships I ever had. It happened slowly, without trying to force the relationship. He was always very supportive, helped me build my self-esteem, and overall was a really great partner. At about three years in, I started feeling bored and started questioning our future together. Mix that with outside pressure to get married and my own personal issues at the time. I ended up sabotaging the relationship.

The last thing he told me when I picked up my stuff from his house was, ‘I really did love you and wanted to spend the rest of my life with you.’ I will always remember that moment and the look he had when he told me that. Years later and I still get sad and emotional on the day our anniversary was on.”<sup>26</sup>

## **27. “What’s The Most Genuinely Nice Thing A Guy Did For You?”**

The Original Poster, Odd-Constant-4026, added, “We hear a lot of stories of nice guys being A-holes and only pretending to be nice. We also hear stories of girls getting used. But I wanna know, what are some stories of guys doing genuinely nice things without expecting anything in return?”

1) appleshowers wrote, “I am incredibly nervous on a bike after falling off and hurting myself badly as a teen. Hadn’t ridden one in over 10 years. My boyfriend drove 200 miles, booked the following day off work, got up early and cycled with me to work when I wanted to try it for the first time. It was a seven-minute journey and it took me 25. He was incredibly patient, stopped with me when I stopped and gave me reassurance, making me feel safe and supported. He then cycled back to my house, waited for me to finish work and cycled back to work to make the return leg with me. Honestly I was so shocked and genuinely surprised that he would put in such a lot of effort to help me. This year will be our 6th year together and we recently did a 50km bike ride together. He is a fantastic human.”

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<sup>26</sup> Source: BedKnightX, “Women who regretted ending a relationship after some months or years later, why do you regret?” Reddit. AskWomen. 10 August 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/plqtrj/women\\_who\\_regretted\\_ending\\_a\\_relationship\\_after/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/plqtrj/women_who_regretted_ending_a_relationship_after/) >.

appleshowers added, “One of my favourite small things he does is that he leaves for work just before I wake up (about 06:30), and he brings me a cup of water in summer and a mug of tea in winter every day. If I’m awake he will sit on the bed and say good morning / have a nice day, etc. If not, he will just leave me to sleep but still leave those little tokens ready for when I’m up. Makes me smile every morning. :)”

2) kalizm wrote, “I started a new job that I was super nervous about that required me to get up at 5am to start getting ready. The first day I woke up to a text from him [a guy friend?] wishing me luck. I was surprised to see him up that early. I ask him if he couldn’t sleep his response was ‘I set my alarm to wake up a little earlier than you so I could wish you luck.’ He did that until I got the hang of the new job. It meant a lot to me.”

3) changhyun wrote:

“Back when I was about 19, I was really struggling with money. I was unemployed and the meagre benefits I could get just barely covered my rent and bills, with almost nothing left for food. One day I was at the jobcentre (which for non-Brits is where unemployed people in the UK have to go on a regular basis to basically prove they’re actually applying to jobs, else their benefits will be stopped) and I started to cry. I hadn’t eaten in days, I was frightened, and the jobcentre generally makes you feel like you’re a bad person for being unemployed.

“Another employee came by and said, ‘I’ll take over,’ to the employee who was talking to me. He had me follow him into a more private room, instead of the open-plan room most jobcentre interviews take place in. And he gave me some tissues and brought me a cup of tea and some biscuits, and then checked to make sure nobody was looking through the room’s windows and handed me a £50 note and said, ‘Buy yourself some groceries.’

“That was over ten years ago and I still remember that man’s kindness. I never saw him again so I couldn’t even thank him properly, but I think of how kind he was to me back then pretty often.”

4) sasspancakes wrote, “When I first started seeing my Significant Other, we were long distance so I’d come out on weekends. He was always up early, and I would sleep in. So before I woke up, he’d gas up my car, run to the grocery store, and make me breakfast in bed. He didn’t expect anything in return, and he didn’t see it as a big gesture or anything, but it seriously meant the world to me. As someone who’s been in toxic relationship after toxic relationship, the fact that he just wanted to do things for me, it just made me cry with happiness.”

5) lemonsqueezy wrote, “Years ago I was attending horse-riding lessons a wee bit outside of the city. There was a train ride close to a village near the stables but you still needed to walk about 30 minutes to get to the horse-riding lessons. I usually rode shotgun with a guy from my same university to get from the city to the stables, but one day it so happened he called me and said he won’t be able to make it to the lesson. I said, ‘OK, I’ll take the train to [village name], no problem, see ya next time.’ Then I’m on the train arriving at the village train stop and he calls my mobile like ‘Are you in [village name] now? Look outside the train stop.’ And lo and behold, there he was in his damn red Cordoba. Turned out his appointment fell through, he decided to go to the lesson and as he knew I’d have to walk to the stables from the train stop he decided to stop on the way to pick me up. To this day, this is the nicest thing a guy has done to me (and I now have a partner who cooks me my fave dinners on the eves before important days, brings me home my fave chocolate and massages my legs when periods make them hurt so I’m not exactly lacking nice things from guys).”

6) verascity wrote, “I’ve had two guy friends pretend to be my boyfriend to ward off creeps. No romantic motives. (Lol. I wished, with one of them). Just being bros.”

7) Bradley\_Sives wrote, “I was getting bullied in high school and was on the verge of suicide. One day, nobody wanted to sit with me and people were even fighting about it (the number of seats was the exact number of students, and the person who usually sits with me was fighting passionately with others to change places). This one guy whom I wasn’t close with or anything stood up from the first row and came and sat next to me. I put my head on the desk and started crying because I didn’t want any attention on me, but I couldn’t stop myself from crying. He leaned over and whispered: ‘Not everyone hates you, please don’t think that.’ I’d go as far and say that he saved my life that day, and I never even got to thank him.”

8) LeighofMar wrote, “There’s been a lot over the years, but I was in a bad flareup of my autoimmune disorder and I mentioned casually that I was in the mood for Waffle House covered with melted American cheese) hash browns. This Saturday I woke up and hubby brought me a full Waffle House breakfast and he made my decaf coffee served to me in bed. I was genuinely surprised and delighted. I felt like a queen, which is a great feeling when you’re sick.”<sup>27</sup>

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<sup>27</sup> Source: Odd-Constant-4026, “What’s the most genuinely nice thing a guy did for you?” Reddit. AskWomen. 11 August 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/p2avcm/whats\\_the\\_most\\_genuinely\\_nice\\_thing\\_a\\_guy\\_did\\_for/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/p2avcm/whats_the_most_genuinely_nice_thing_a_guy_did_for/) >.

## 28. “What Are The Strangest Names That You Have Heard A Kid Call Their Grandparents, Instead Of ‘Grandpa’ And ‘Grandma’?”

1) grombleduke wrote, “My mom is referred to as ‘Grandma Uncle Imhotep’ by a couple of my nieces.”

MarkToaster commented, “I really wanna know the story behind this one.”

grombledule added:

“My kids refer to my brother as ‘Uncle Imhotep’ because my eldest couldn’t remember his *real* name and kept asking, so I just started putting out names at random. That one stuck.

“Well, my sister thought that was a scream (so does my brother), and she had *her* kids start referring to him as Uncle Imhotep. And to differentiate between my mom and her husband’s mom, my sister’s kids started calling my mother ‘Grandma Uncle Imhotep.’”

2) openletter8 wrote, “My Grandma and Grandpa both refused to let any of their twelve grandchildren ever call them by any title. They are / were their first names only. The great-grandchildren also refer to the Matriarch by her name, ‘Helen.’ Sometimes we tease and call her ‘Great Helen,’ or the ‘Great and Powerful Helen,’ to a sly smile.”

3) c71score wrote:

“Newman.

“My dad was a huge fan of NASCAR driver Ryan Newman, and my son called him Newman until he was about six.”<sup>28</sup>

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<sup>28</sup> Source: MarkToaster, “What are the strangest names that you have heard a kid call their grandparents, instead of ‘grandpa’ and ‘Grandma’?” Reddit. AskReddit. 11 August 2021 <

## 29. “Fit Women In A Happy Relationship With An Overweight Partner, How Do You Handle The Difference In Habits / Lifestyle?”

Angrysmolbean wrote:

“All right, I’ll bite.

“Being fit and being overweight are not a binary system. This is just my specific case of dating someone who lived a very unhealthy lifestyle compared to mine and he just happened to also be an overweight individual. I do not condone fatphobia.

“I’ve been very active for a few years now. I compete in weightlifting competitions and bike a lot. I’d estimate that I spend ten hours exercising a week, even when I’m working full time. I used to be in a committed relationship with an overweight man who didn’t care for fitness at all. We broke up for other reasons, but I won’t lie and say our incompatibility in fitness wasn’t at least a small part of it.

“When I’d hit the gym with friends or bike for fun, it would cause tension. He’d do his best to keep me from the gym because it made him insecure or he just wanted to sleep in until 1pm with me. He’d throw away my meal preps and ask me to get burgers with him multiple times a week. He overall just really didn’t like some of the things about my lifestyle because they clashed with his and he rarely made an effort to change in any way for me, even though I was making an effort to accommodate him. I didn’t want him to drop all the weight for me or eat only salad like a rabbit. I just wanted his support and for him to stop constantly waving my favorite cheat foods in my face. It grew into resentment towards the end of our relationship, and it’s part of why we

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[https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/p2i67g/what\\_are\\_the\\_strangest\\_names\\_that\\_you\\_have\\_heard/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/p2i67g/what_are_the_strangest_names_that_you_have_heard/) >.



broke up. We did not handle these differences well, and I'm sharing this with you so you don't go down the same path.

“If you care about your Significant Other and she happens to be very fit, you don't need to suddenly become a paragon of fitness and health. You just need to support her and her goals. Learn a little bit about nutrition and her particular form of exercising. If she's into a specific sport, learn a bit about it. If she likes weight training, learn a bit about the muscle groups, etc. Just be a good supportive boyfriend. That's really all I'd have wanted in my last relationship. I'm now with a wonderful man who's also very fitness oriented and it does come with its own set of issues but sharing in our passion has been really great for our relationship.”<sup>29</sup>

### **30. “What's The Most Embarrassing Thing That Happened When You Were In The Hospital?”**

1) angrysmolbean wrote, “I went to the hospital after I stepped on something barefoot and it slid up my foot and couldn't be removed with tweezers. I had no clue what it was and the ER doctor told me I was imagining things and sent me home. A few weeks pass and I still can't walk right and I go to another doctor who agrees to open my foot up. He finds a giant piece of broken glass inside my foot. It's about 3cm long (a bit over an inch). No clue how the ER doctor didn't see it when the wound was still fresh. What was embarrassing about this was when I came out of surgery, I started spewing odd lesbian fantasies and that's how my parents learned their 16-year-old daughter wasn't straight.”

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<sup>29</sup> Source: vietboi2999, “Fit women in a happy relationship with an overweight partner, how do you handle the difference in habits/lifestyle?” Reddit. AskWomen. 11 August 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/p2mj4m/fit\\_women\\_in\\_a\\_happy\\_relationship\\_with\\_an/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/p2mj4m/fit_women_in_a_happy_relationship_with_an/) >.

2) iLoveCookiesxo wrote, “Not myself but I had a college friend who bought a cheap vibrator that shorted and shocked her while it was inside and it didn’t stop tingling so she had to go to the ER and explain.”

3) carhatesrudy wrote:

“I lost a tampon. Didn’t check the string before I inserted it and when it came time to pull it realized there was nothing to pull.

“I have short fingers and a high cervix and couldn’t get a hold of it, was away in college and my boyfriend (with long fingers) was back home, and it was just the right size I wasn’t able to push it out.

“Tried to talk to my mom about it and she’s always been fucking awful to talk to about life things and she couldn’t wrap her head around it at all but at least was like, ‘Yeah, you have to go talk to a doctor.’

“So I did and ended up with a doctor who looked like he was practically my age and grilled me about if the tampon looked normal when he got it out.

“Whole thing was mortifying. The only saving grace was that one of my mom’s friends had the same thing happen to her so at least my mom didn’t continue to think I was defective. (And yes. Yes, she did go off to tell her friends because that is who she is: not helpful at all and chatty as shit.)”

4) moonlight\_sparkles wrote:

“I was probably like nine years old, and my little sister took my shoe and ran off with it. I ran after her but was obviously off balance because I was missing a goddamn shoe.

“Ran headfirst into the wall and split my forehead open, somehow getting some drywall stuck in the wound. Once the

drywall was removed, I was gushing blood and needed stitches.

“Twenty-one years later I tell people it’s my Harry Potter scar.”<sup>30</sup>

### **31. “Women Of Reddit, What Do You Wanna Hear Most During Sex From Your Partner?”**

1) WeNamedTheDogIndi, “Any sounds like he’s lost in it — levels of enjoyment, that’s magic for me.”

Cheddarpeppress commented, “Yep. As a woman, hearing my partner make sounds of pleasure really adds to my experience and honestly gets me there sooner.”

youcanspaxe commented, “I find vocal men very attractive. Like grunting and moaning and just being talkative.”

2) Syntania wrote, “Moans, grunts, anything like that is so hot. I hate absolute silence. I’m like, ‘Dude, you are enjoying this, right?’”

crackhole911 commented, “Sometimes I’m quiet because it is taking everything for me to NOT finish too early.”

3) schroedingersnewcat wrote:

“I just had this discussion with my guy.

“I kept changing what I was doing because it seemed like it wasn’t getting him anywhere. He rarely makes any noise at all, so I never know (outside of an erection) if what I’m doing is doing anything at all.

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<sup>30</sup> Source: Slash\_Raptor92, “What’s the most embarrassing you’ve been hospitalized for?” Reddit. AskWomen. 12 August 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/p3ag09/whats\\_the\\_most\\_embarrassing\\_youve\\_been/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/p3ag09/whats_the_most_embarrassing_youve_been/) >.

“His response? ‘The erection IS the response.’ It’s like, ‘Dude, that’s not enough. You have to talk to me, or I will think this isn’t doing anything for you, and you’re just too afraid to say anything.’”

lostmistress101 commented, “Talk and tell us everything, guys.”

4) HotDamp wrote, “I like when he says things like, ‘You’re so hot’ or ‘You feel so good.’ Things like that.”

5) bipolar-butterfly wrote, “I’m not super big on words. When a guy just loses himself and makes those feral groans / moans, it’s the hottest thing ever.”

6) Cakey-Baby wrote, “How soft and hot my body feels, how much he enjoys being with me, how good I am making him feel. And moans.”

7) magicmoonflower wrote, “Tell me how pretty I am while smashing my lights out. And that I smell nice.”

8) growingpainzzz wrote, “I want to hear him talking to me, engaging me, telling me what to do, etc. Not long conversations, obviously, and never if it’s forced or awkward, but the best sexual experiences I’ve had have been with men confident and comfortable enough to communicate with me about what they like / what I like, etc. WHILE we’re in the moment. It can get pretty primal / raw / honest in a really hot way.”<sup>31</sup>

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<sup>31</sup> Source: No\_Inspector6469, “Women of reddit, what do you wanna hear most during sex from your partner?” Reddit. AskWomen. 14 August 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/p4fyrg/women\\_of\\_reddit\\_what\\_do\\_you\\_wanna\\_hear\\_most/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/p4fyrg/women_of_reddit_what_do_you_wanna_hear_most/) >.

### 32. “What’s A Food You’re Not Allergic To But Find Disgusting?”

1) CatsAreTheBest2 wrote, “Liver.”

smtrowell asked, “Not even with Fava beans and a nice Chianti?”

Rinswind 1985 wrote, “As a child my sister would have my parents make liver and onions once a week for dinner ... not because she liked it but because she knew I hated it and I would get stuck at the table until bed for not finishing my dinner.”

gayeld commented, “I’ve never been more grateful that my sister hated it as much as I did.”

3BallJosh commented, “Liver and onions is a great way to ruin a perfectly good onion.”

2) akcoder wrote:

“I despised vegetables growing up because my mom boiled them until they were a limp, lifeless, soulless shell of their former selves. I didn’t know that broccoli or squash could taste good.

“Stir fry them on high heat for just a minute or two, maybe a little bit of salt to taste and it’s good.”

KakarotTheHero wrote, “The most valuable lesson I’ve learned when it comes to cooking vegetables, especially in Asian style foods, is to never actually cook the vegetables, only threaten them.”

Carrotide commented, “Lovely turn of phrase, threatening vegetables. I’m totally adopting that into daily use!”

cultured\_banana\_slug commented, “Just turn on the over-stove light and start interrogating the green beans.”

bearlynice asked, “Why is this such a common experience? Why is everyone’s mom overcooking food into gross mush? Is this a power you unlock when you become a parent?”

themightybearorrist responded, “I actually asked my mom about it and she insisted that she does it because my dad likes vegetables that way. I asked my dad and he said my mom likes vegetables that way and he hates it.”

5yrsmynname commented, “My parents were married 20 years before my dad finally admitted he doesn’t like his toast burned. Lol.”<sup>32</sup>

### 33. “What’s Your Biggest Fantasy? [NSFW]”

eleventyfivenoodles wrote, “I wake up in my own bed, not worried about work and money, while someone holds me and I feel at peace.”

hash commented, “I’ll have one of these.”

Poem\_for\_your\_sprog wrote:

“When days are hard and nights are tough —

“When rivers course their journey rough —

“I long to wake and wait a while

“To see her sleep, and watch her smile.

“We wouldn’t care for what’s outside —

“No wind-whipped world or raging tide,

“Nor pain or loss or duty, debt,

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<sup>32</sup> Source: RasheemHyiga, “What’s a food you’re not allergic to but find disgusting?” Reddit. AskReddit. 14 August 2021 <  
[https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/p4k4jc/whats\\_a\\_food\\_youre\\_not\\_allergic\\_to\\_but\\_find/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/p4k4jc/whats_a_food_youre_not_allergic_to_but_find/)>.

“Could bend or break our safety net.

“I’d dream to wake and rise each day

“Without a single word to say,

“But just a thought — a moment’s bliss —

“To think that life was made for this.”

LET-ME-HAVE-A-NAAME commented:

“When I saw the ‘NSFW’ [NOT SAFE FOR WORK] tag on here and saw the question, I knew exactly how this was going to go down.

“People’s biggest fantasies are almost never of a sexual nature. Deep down, we all want to feel safe and loved.”<sup>33</sup>

### **34. “People Of Reddit, What Is The Most Bittersweet Situation You’ve Experienced?”**

1) -Words-Words-Words- wrote, “About ten years ago just before she died of lung cancer, my mom called me by my childhood nickname, told me she loved me and then fell asleep. That was the last thing she ever said to me. I was 35 when she died and she hadn’t called me that nickname in maybe 30 years. I still tear up thinking about it.”

2) afrocircus6969 wrote, “Breaking up with my then-girlfriend because her dream of moving abroad permanently was coming true. I was happy for her but sad to see her leave.”

3) mejok wrote, “Holding my grandfather’s hand as he passed away. It was incredibly sad to see him go, but also

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<sup>33</sup> Source: avataylor94\_, “What’s your biggest fantasy? [NSFW]” Reddit. AskReddit. 15 August 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/p4sjw0/whats\\_your\\_biggest\\_fantasy\\_nsfw/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/p4sjw0/whats_your_biggest_fantasy_nsfw/) >.

relieving to see that it was peaceful and that he had been released.”

Satures commented, “Same for me with my grandmother. My father held one hand, and I held the other while she slowly drifted away.”

aragog-acromantula wrote, “Watching my babies grow. Obviously I want them to grow, but if I could just pause time for a bit.”

4) po4165 wrote, “I was talking to this person on a specific forum once. Both of us were equally engrossed. I don’t know how but it gradually morphed into a lovey-dovey conversation as we kept talking. Shortly thereafter, we found out we had a twelve-year age gap. I was sixteen then and he was twenty-eight. I laugh like an idiot every time I recall. It feels strange but silly and sweet.”<sup>34</sup>

### **35. “What Is An Insult That Stupid People Would Think Is A Compliment?”**

royeg42775 wrote, “My grandma always says people are ‘good and kind’ when they get on her nerves. They think she’s a sweet old lady, when she’s really saying they’re ‘good for nothing and kinda stupid.’ I got it engraved on a mug for her.”<sup>35</sup>

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<sup>34</sup> Source: BlaasianCowboy, “People of Reddit, What is the most bittersweet situation you’ve experienced?” Reddit. AskReddit. 16 August 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/p5e54w/people\\_of\\_reddit\\_what\\_is\\_the\\_most\\_bittersweet/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/p5e54w/people_of_reddit_what_is_the_most_bittersweet/) >.

<sup>35</sup> Source: its\_ya\_boy\_lil\_nips, “What is an insult that stupid people would think is a compliment?” Reddit. AskReddit. 16 August 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/p5cwgq/what\\_is\\_an\\_insult\\_that\\_stupid\\_people\\_would\\_think/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/p5cwgq/what_is_an_insult_that_stupid_people_would_think/) >.



### 36. “What Was Your ‘Joke’s On You. I’m Into This Shit’ Moment?”

1) SublimeDom777 wrote:

“While I was high-school age, I worked at a restaurant and when the desserts were on their way out in terms of freshness, the employees took turns eating the last slice.

“The last slice of chocolate banana cream pie was calling my name and I had asked the waitress if I could have it. She said yes, so I was pretty excited, but a few minutes later the other server on duty was standing there eating the pie and laughed when I said I had called dibs.

“He went out to the dining room to check on his tables, and I decided to get even by pranking him.

“I took his spoon, filled the base of it with ketchup, topped it off with some of the whipped cream from the pie, and went back to work.

“A few minutes later I heard him take that spoonful, and he was pissed. It wasn’t five minutes later that the manager came over and asked if I had put ketchup in the pie. I fessed up, and said it was just a prank, that nothing was wrong with the rest of the pie.

“The manager wasn’t having it, I had to be punished for what I had done. I had to finish the slice of pie.

“Needless to say, since I had messed only with that spoonful, I quite enjoyed my punishment.”

2) 2\_old2B\_clever wrote:

“Punishment for not getting my workbook signed every night, by my very busy, often absent mom, was I had to stay in for recess.

“So I got to sit at my desk and read and draw instead of kicking kickballs up in the air and trying to catch them like the other boys.”

3) Dervrak wrote about a joke’s-on-me moment, “Probably in college, we were goofing around and drinking like college boys do, one of the guys I had met a few times but didn’t know real well bent over to pick up something that had fallen under the desk, I walk up behind him grabbed him around the waist and thrust my hips like I was going to fuck his ass. He looked up and smiled and said, ‘Let’s go back to my dorm room if you want to do that.’ The total shocked look on my face must have been priceless, because the other guys started laughing and said, ‘Bet you didn’t know he’s BI, did you?’”

wehosh wrote, “Whenever someone makes a rape joke or something similar, my response is always *Careful now, with me, you have no way of knowing where the sarcasm ends and the BDSM begins.*”

Note by David Bruce: Chances are, wehosh is into roleplay.<sup>36</sup>

### **37. “What Is The Most Memorable Deathbed Confession You Have Heard?”**

1) linarxaaz wrote:

“When I was in hospital, the guy in the bed next to me just asked to stop taking his meds as he was ready to die. Last thing I heard him say was ‘There’s no one waiting for me at home, so I’m going where they are.’”

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<sup>36</sup> Source: GregTheGreat657, “What was your ‘Jokes on you, I’m into that shit’ moment?” Reddit. AskReddit. 16 August 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/p5ejmu/what\\_was\\_you\\_r\\_jokes\\_on\\_you\\_im\\_into\\_that\\_shit/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/p5ejmu/what_was_you_r_jokes_on_you_im_into_that_shit/)>.

“Wasn’t really a shocking confession, just a lonely and heartbreaking one.”

2) Dervrak wrote:

“Not exactly a deathbed confession. But my great-Grandma was in Hospice and didn’t have much time left. I was in high school and in my first serious ‘True Love’ relationship. So I asked her how she knew great-Grandpa was the one. (They were married for 59 years until his death, and they had 12, YES 12, kids.) I always assumed they were the pinnacle of a true love story.

“She shrugged and responded, ‘How should I know? I never loved the man. Don’t get me wrong, he was a good husband and father, but I still never had any feelings for him. Back when I was young, it was pretty much expected you would marry young and have kids. He was the first man who courted me and eventually asked for my hand in marriage and I said, ‘Yes,’ because it was what I was expected to do. But I never had any real feelings for him. Back then you didn’t divorce, and like I said, he was never mean or cruel. In fact, we had some really good times. But the best I could say is I liked him most of the time, but never loved him.’

“Needless to say, not the response I expected.”

3) dallased wrote, “My dad was a Christian his whole life, but had heart problems two years prior to his death and had actually died for two minutes a year prior. A day before he died, we were talking and my dad told me, ‘You remember when I died?’ I nodded and he said, ‘I didn’t tell your mother or anyone else, but you know what I saw? Nothing. There was nothing at all.’ I said, ‘So what does that mean?’ He said, ‘It means I’m not afraid of death anymore, because I know what it is. No heaven, no hell ... just gone. So that’s why I’m enjoying every minute I have left.’ [...] hearing this was

unexpected, especially since I always knew my dad as a Christian.”<sup>37</sup>

### **38. “What Was The Best Time You’ve Ever Had With Your Mom?”**

1) GreenMountain85 wrote, “I can remember when I was 9 or 10 I went shopping with her when she was trying to find an outfit to wear to a fancy holiday party. The salesperson had picked out a few outfits for my mother to try on. One involved this complicated-looking bustier. My mother put it on and couldn’t get it off. I remember her and I laughing so hard trying to get it off of her.”

2) A\_Miss\_Amiss wrote:

“I remember being very small, sitting in a little kiddie pool in my pink swimsuit and splashing around. Everything was green and warm, flowers blooming, sunlight streaming through the treetops. In my head, I can still vividly hear the birds singing and smell the aromas of the flowers. She was sitting in a lawn chair nearby watching me, and I remember looking up into her face. Her eyes were so kind and sweet, overflowing with a powerful love, with a gentle and deeply content smile on her face.

“I miss my mama, but I will always hold fast to that memory. When I remember it, I feel that love again enveloping me.”

3) DontDefineMeAsshole wrote, “The week before my wedding, we went to Victoria, Canada, for a girls day trip. We were there for only about five hours, but we had such a

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<sup>37</sup> Source: Highlight-Top, “What is the juiciest deathbed confession you have heard?” Reddit. AskReddit. 16 August 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/p5i63c/what\\_is\\_the\\_juiciest\\_deathbed\\_confession\\_you\\_have/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/p5i63c/what_is_the_juiciest_deathbed_confession_you_have/) >.

lot of fun. When the border opens back up, we're going back."

DontDefineMeAsshole added, "We walked around the harbor, dipped in and out of shops and went into my favorite pub so she could try their poutine and a gin and tonic. It was really low key, but a lot of fun to be away from the wedding hustle, and I could be present with my mom before the big day, which was really cool."

4) bunnyisarider wrote, "She used to read to me from her favorite books. She has a great voice and she would do individual character voices, too."

Super-Time9926 commented, "My mom used to read to me too. She read *Of Mice and Men* when I was maybe nine or 10 and I SOBBED at the end. I was so upset that she would read me such a sad book. Lol."

5) coastalkid92 wrote:

"I don't know if I would classify this as the best time but it's certainly something that gives me the warm fuzzies.

"My mom and I met up in Dublin, just after I moved to the United Kingdom and had been promptly dumped by my Significant Other of two years, for my birthday.

"I went to her hotel, and she had a birthday cake and a big hug waiting for me.

"We spent three days wandering Dublin, having pints, going on tours and generally having a good time."

6) anxybean wrote, "I clearly remember one night where we stayed up until the sun came up, and we just talked the whole time. She stood at the counter, hammering Bud Lights, while I sat in my chair with a Coke. We didn't get many moments of peace together, so that will always be special."

7) Green\_Tea\_Supreme wrote, “My relationship with my mother isn’t good. But I do remember when I was really small, she used to come down the hall singing ‘You Are My Sunshine’ before coming into my room to wake me up.”

8) Agile\_Badger6160 wrote, “I got stranded in Kansas once driving back home from spending a week with a friend from Colorado. She drove up to support me while a lot of bad shit was happening at home. We were up there for a whole week together and we went to so many restaurants and boutiques, we even got our ears pierced together. Lol. I think every one of those days we started with brunch and mimosas and ended it with ice cream. I loved that week with her so much.”

9) driveonacid wrote:

“Summer of 1995. I was 14. My mom had a doctor’s appointment in NYC. We lived in Syracuse, so I figured we’d just drive. Nope! We flew down there. Up until that point, I had no idea you could fly somewhere and back in the same day. We had the whole day in the City, so she took me to a diner for lunch and to the top of the Empire State Building. Then, we went to Bloomingdale’s. She was going to get me a new outfit for the first day of school. We ended up in the fancy dress department and she got me a little black dress to wear to some kind of formal in high school. We went to her appointment. She tried to find tickets for a Broadway show, but there weren’t any that interested us. So, she called the airline and moved our flight up to an earlier one. Then, we went into a hotel through a side door and had the doorman hail us a cab. I learned so much about traveling from my mom that day.

“I miss her. A lot.”

10) contrariwiser wrote:

“Maybe not the *\*best\** but potentially a good contender for the best time I *didn’t* do something with my mom. :)”

“I went to a kind of fancy private school in the suburbs outside of a big city, and part of that territory came with events like charity fundraisers. In this case, it was a ‘mother-daughter fashion show’ hosted at a local country club on a Sunday morning where they were doing a seated breakfast. Most of the ‘models’ were the extremely rich, snobby girls who saw it as a popularity contest, and though my mom and I signed up to attend the event, we were both iffy on the entire thing and just thought of it as a chance to participate in *something*. My mom worked a lot so she wasn’t exactly spending a ton of free time with the stay-at-home moms who were putting on this type of event.

“We got up early the morning of the show, got ready, grabbed coffee, and decided to sit in the country club parking lot for a few minutes to finish our drinks before going in. We sat there silently watching people go in, and finally we both just look at each other and go, ‘Should we just leave?’ ‘YUP.’

“We pulled out of the parking lot and probably ended up going to Target instead.”<sup>38</sup>

### **39. “When You Were A Teen, What Was The Most Valuable Or Impactful Experience(s) You Had With The Important Adult Women In Your Life?”**

Aerial\_roots, the Original Poster, added, “I’m thinking specifically about women who were not your mom / primary caregiver. This could be advice, events, activities, moments, interactions, conversations, or anything else that you will never forget. My first thought was more toward the positive experiences, but those aren’t the only experiences that leave

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<sup>38</sup> Source: jflex13, “What was the best time you’ve ever had with your mom?” Reddit. AskWomen. 18 August 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/p6tapf/what\\_was\\_the\\_best\\_time\\_youve\\_ever\\_had\\_with\\_your/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/p6tapf/what_was_the_best_time_youve_ever_had_with_your/) >.

a big mark on our lives. So, what are the things that make you go, 'I'll never forget that time...'"

1) msstark wrote:

"One Friday in college, I decided to skip my last morning class and surprise my grandma. I took the bus home (an hour away) and went to see her. I'll never forget her smile welcoming me literally with open arms!

"She passed away suddenly later that year, so I'm really glad I cherished her while she was around."

2) Garp5248 wrote:

"My mom and I argued nonstop when I was a teenager and disagreed about everything. My mom set up lunch dates with her Best Friend Forever and me once a month. I think my mom's intent was that she'd have another adult (one I liked) telling me to listen to her. But my mom's best friend forever is the best, and just spent the time listening to me, telling me I was normal and sometimes telling me my mom was out of line. She also tried to give me perspective on why my mom was the way she was and why. It was amazing to feel so validated by an adult and forced me to think of my mom as a human, too. She also did the opposite when I was being a little shit, but it's a lot easier to accept you're the problem when only certain things you're doing are wrong and not everything.

"Her best friend forever and I still talk regularly. At no point did she promise to keep secrets for me, but I think it was helpful for both my mom and me to have a neutral third party step in and give some perspective. She was a parent, too, but her son was younger than me."

3) amej117 wrote, "When one of my uncles died unexpectedly and relatively young, watching my aunt pretty much fall apart because she had no real life outside of



marriage. Everything she did was them as a couple. I was around 15 and realized at that age the importance of maintaining individual interests, hobbies and friends, along with making darn sure I could be self-sufficient, if ever I got married. This is something my husband heard about quite early in our relationship because the impression held strong and I have stuck to my word to myself.”

4) schwarzmalerin wrote, “Maybe not the most important, but we had a chemistry and physics teacher who was simply bad ass. She was super smart, super educated, super assertive, super fashionable, and super feminine. She showed me that you can be a successful woman in a very ‘manly’ field, be a bad ass, and be feminine and proud of all it. Note, that was in the 80s.”

5) -LadyLigeia wrote, “I guess this is super common, but I remember when I was like 12-13, an older cousin told me to never smoke. I’m 19 now and I haven’t tried one single cigarette in my life, and I don’t intend to. Many people have told me that as an advice, but if it hadn’t been her, I would probably have tried it at some point, maybe when I first started going out with friends, and I know I have too little willpower to quit in case I started doing it regularly, so I really appreciate that moment.”

6) AirStoned wrote:

“I had an English teacher I loved. She gave a lot of advice in her classes but in terms of an impactful experience specifically for me, she once caught up to me on the way to class to tell me my poem for the school magazine was the best she’d ever read from a student. And she gave me a chocolate bar. XD.

“I still have the wrapper because I’m a sentimental fool, but I don’t have the poem. I remember it was about watching my boyfriend sleep, and it was so affirming as a teen to have a

teacher who accepted that I was ‘at that stage’ with guys and didn’t judge but only cared about the quality of the relationship and that I was happy.”

7) AlfredoQueen88 wrote, “My English teacher was a childfree ‘radical feminist.’ I showed a ton of interest in her opinions, and she often would tell our whole class to make sure we could always support ourselves, and marriage and children were not necessary if we didn’t want them. I really appreciated her, and a lot of her advice has stuck with me and done me well. My mom and best friend’s mom were similar and having such feminist influences in my life growing up really made my life better.”

8) TheRecklessOne wrote:

“When I was 19/20, I was in a bad relationship with a dude who was straight up insulting and had no respect for me. He was awful, but I was insecure and couldn’t see how bad it was.

“I started a new job and met a woman who was like, 30. She would gently point out that things weren’t okay when I brought them up, but she didn’t push it. Instead, she talked a lot about her husband. Not in a bragging way, but just slip into conversation how they’d had a disagreement the night before and how sweet the way they resolved it was ... stuff like that.

“It took time, but gradually it started to sink in that relationships really could be this awesome, supportive, happy thing. Having a real-life example of that and being able to think ‘if she found it, I can, too’ reeeeeally helped me see things clearly and gave me something to compare relationships to.

“I now have a relationship that’s very much like hers was, and it’s fucking awesome. I just have to master the super

chill way that she was able to get that across to me so I can pass on the wisdom.”

9) cute-lil-evil-spirit wrote:

“Trigger warning: suicide.

“I am a teen: When a friend of mine contacted me about possibly committing suicide, I didn’t know what to do, so I went to my mom. She was so incredibly helpful and kind, and that’s when I really knew I could trust her with anything.

“By the way: Friend is still alive and doing well.”<sup>39</sup>

#### **40. “What Is The Correct Way To Approach A Guy?”**

Plantayne wrote, “Honestly and with words. Assume he’s a complete moron who has zero situational awareness and won’t pick up on your subtle hints.”

skaliton commented, “Exactly this. And don’t think, ‘Oh, this isn’t subtle. He will get it.’ Assume anything other than an explicit ‘hey, I want to go on a date with you’ (or whatever your goal is) will not be picked up on.”

UnknownPickl3 commented, “Yes, assume we are brain-dead seven-year-olds who need to be told explicitly what you mean. Don’t drop hints or clues: Just TELL US your interest. A simple ‘I like you. Wanna go on a date?’ is sufficient. Girls be dropping weird hints and be expecting us to solve them, but we’re not detectives. I just finished work, and you want me to solve another problem?”

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<sup>39</sup> Source: Aerial\_roots, “When you were a teen, what was the most valuable or impactful experience(s) you had with the important adult women in your life?” Reddit. AskWomen. 18 August 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/p6u7tc/when\\_you\\_were\\_a\\_teen\\_what\\_was\\_the\\_most\\_valuable/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/p6u7tc/when_you_were_a_teen_what_was_the_most_valuable/) >.

BMXer972 commented, “I was at a bar last weekend and this girl and I kept making eye contact and then all of a sudden I look over and she’s waving at me. But nope, my dumbass is like ‘Oh, she’s been looking at someone behind me this whole time. How embarrassing.’ It wasn’t until she was gone that I had the guts to turn around to see who she was waving at and all I see is a wall ... dog, it was me. she was waving at me.”

Klutzy\_Piccolo commented, “Life is God and Satan sitting back with a few bongos watching an extended run of one of those awful sitcom episodes where everything could be solved if people just spoke to each other properly.”

DiscoMagicParty commented:

“‘But I winked at you so many times with my sexy look.’

“‘I thought you had cataracts and constipation.’”

TheIconicNZ wrote, “Yes, also because we are actual human beings. It’s easier to just tell us you like us, rather than having us solve three Rubik’s cubes and a riddle to figure it out. In addition, we usually pick up hints, but there’s a higher risk in our minds in finding out if it’s a hint or a girl just being friendly in a different way (as we’ve had instances where we thought other girls were flirting with us, but were proven wrong), so we sometimes back off. It’s also way more special to us if you can just tell us.”

TheKingOfDub commented, “Ten years ago I literally had the hottest and most talented of all the female attendees at a YouTuber event, linking arms with me day and saying, ‘Hey, ... you’re hot, and I’m cute. Why can’t we be together?’ I legit thought it was a joke or something. We men be so smart.”

IPokePeople commented, “My marriage improved dramatically when I explained that if she didn’t want to be

disappointed with gifts on her birthday and other special occasions she should specifically identify what she wants, preferably size and colour as well.”

Ok-Seaworthiness6603 commented:

“Half of the time, the ‘subtle hints’ you talk about are subtle hints. The other half is the girl just being nice or polite.

“I’ve heard many stories of people feeling they’re being seduced just to take a chance and then being shot down because she’s ‘not interested.’ So no, we won’t catch those subtle hints because we’ve been shot down with more obvious hints.

“If you’re a guy who wants to date a girl, just ask her out. If you’re a girl who wants to date a guy, just ask him out.

“If you’re a guy who wants to date a girl, just ask her out. If you’re a girl who wants to date a guy, just ask him out.

“Just stop expecting the guy / girl you’re interested in to make the first move. Do it yourself.”<sup>40</sup>

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<sup>40</sup> Source: MeRedchilli, “what is the correct way to approach a guy??” Reddit. AskReddit. 18 August 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/p70u63/what\\_is\\_the\\_correct\\_way\\_to\\_approach\\_a\\_guy/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/p70u63/what_is_the_correct_way_to_approach_a_guy/)>.

### Chapter 3: Stories 41-60

#### 41. “What Was The Very First Psychological Trick You Learned That Blew Your Mind?”

LongHaulinTruckwit wrote, “Whenever my toddler refuses to do something. I start doing it. Then they get all angry cause they wanna do it.”

NeedsMoreTuba wrote:

“I tell mine that I’m giving her a choice between two things.

“The catch is that both of the choices are things that I want to have happen.

“Example: Toddler won’t nap. I say, ‘Would you like to have some juice and then take your nap, or would you like to take a nap without any juice?’

“Those are obviously the same two things, but one has juice, and suddenly the nap becomes more appealing.”

HiddenMaragon wrote:

“Another helpful one is to move the goalposts.

“Instead of: ‘It’s time for a nap,’ you can try, ‘I’ll read only ‘Three Little Pigs’ for naptime today,’ and let them argue about wanting ‘Red Riding Hood’ while naptime then becomes a given.

“It’s a lifesaver getting out the door in the morning. Kid is throwing a tantrum about not wanting to wear the outfit you chose so instead of discussing the outfit, you talk about what cereal you have for breakfast and their little contrary brain shifts the tantrum to breakfast choices and forgets they were meant to be arguing about their outfit. It’s time for breakfast and you can start talking about which jacket to wear and direct the toddler tantrum on to that. Eventually their little

brain gets distracted and forgets they meant to be disagreeing with everything you suggest.”

SymphonyForTheDevil commented:

“Clean up your toys.’

“No!’

“Clean up your toys.’

“No!’

“I bet you CAN’T clean up your toys before the timer goes off!”

“YES, I CAN!’

“I BET YOU CANT!’

“I’M GONNA CLEAN UP MORE THAN YOU!’”

FLOHJO commented, “If my seven-year-old were to hear me say, ‘Fine, I’ll clean your room then! I don’t want you to!’ he’s going to immediately call my bluff and walk away victorious, yelling, ‘Thanks, Dad!’”<sup>41</sup>

#### **42. “What Are Normal Things You’ve Been Shamed For Because You’re A Woman (E.g., Hairy Armpit, Boob Sweat)?”**

lEvilAlicia wrote:

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<sup>41</sup> Source: WendyBerniercardou, “What was the very first psychological trick you learned that blew your mind?” Reddit. AskReddit. 19 August 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/p7ijle/what\\_was\\_the\\_very\\_first\\_psychological\\_trick\\_you/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/p7ijle/what_was_the_very_first_psychological_trick_you/) >.

“Once back in school when I was like 16 or 17. I was on my period, so I went to the toilet. And I reached in my backpack first and grabbed a folded maxi pad.

“And one guy said, laughing: ‘Haha. Eww, a pad. That is so gross.’ I just responded with: ‘Oh, no. I have normal body functions. How horrible,’ and I just ignored that kid and went to the toilet without giving any fucks.

“I never gave a fuck and I never will, No way I was going to be one of those girls who took their heavy backpacks to the toilet to hide a pad.”

oatmilkicedlatte commented, “That’s so badass. I wish I had been that self-assured as a teenager.”

staringsspace commented, “I definitely shoved my pad up my sleeve before going to the toilet, to avoid people seeing (although I was attending an all-girls school, and most of us had periods by this point). Bizarre, isn’t it.”

oatmilkicedlatte responded, “Same!! And I would unwrap the pad wrapper so very slowly and quietly because I didn’t want anyone to know.”

pm\_me\_ur\_unicorn\_ commented:

“I would hide them in my sleeve or bra until I was like 27? More than once I’d gone whispering to the other women round the office if they have a tampon if I was caught out.

“Now I’ll happily call out in front of everyone to ask.”

oatmilkicedlatte responded, “I remember that Tampax or some company came out with silent pad wrappers at some point in the early 2000s and they marketed it like, ‘So you don’t embarrass yourself by letting others know you have a period!’ I thought it was a godsend at the time but in hindsight it’s so disempowering.”



xAshletB commented:

“I teach 5th grade, and the girls literally do not care.

“I love it so much.”

sundayhungover commented, “I remember being at school at 13-years-old and one of my female classmates raised her hand and said to the teacher: ‘Can I go to the bathroom? I’m on my period and need to change my pad.’ The teacher said yes. I was so amazed and all the other girls admired her. Lol. This should be normalised.”

imsoaddicted commented, “I remember I asked my female teacher for a pad in high school, and she got me one but then started searching around for a paper towel or something to wrap it in so it could be discreet. I just told her, ‘Oh, it’s okay. I don’t care.’ She and my (all-female) class looked at me like an eye grew out of my forehead.”

em\_pathetic21 wrote, “It’s so weird to me that, even with no men around, we still feel like we have to hide evidence of our periods? I was in an all-girls choir class and a friend asked me for a pad. I discreetly tried to hand it to her as she tried to hide it in her sleeve. it wasn’t until she had left the room that I realized how weird it was that, in a room full of ONLY teenage girls, we still both felt like we had to hide the fact that we menstruate?”<sup>42</sup>

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<sup>42</sup> Source: PetitPied21, “What are normal things you’ve been shamed for because you’re a woman (e.g. hairy armpit, boob sweat)?” Reddit. AskWomen. 19 August 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/p7e28o/what\\_are\\_normal\\_things\\_youve\\_been\\_shamed\\_for/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/p7e28o/what_are_normal_things_youve_been_shamed_for/) >.

### 43. “Married People Of Reddit, What Was Your ‘Man, I’d Better Marry Them’ Moment?”

1) Fluxxed0 wrote, “You ever have a minute where you wonder ‘how is this person single?’ without a shred of irony? I have no earthly idea how my wife was single when we met. Seriously, y’all missed out.”

2) cottageless wrote, “When I got my first cluster headache at a party at his friend’s house. I puked everywhere (including in his car) and he took care of me. Got me a wet rag and some meds, cleaned up his car and snuggled with me while watching some movies at a low volume. Didn’t complain once about it, didn’t berate me. Just held me.”

3) CowbouXuliver wrote:

“I love my alone time. Whenever someone I dated was busy doing something else, I was always, ‘Woohoo, I have some time to myself.’”

“When my now-wife went to visit her parents for two weeks, I thought great. I can just veg out for a couple weeks and chill. It will be like a mini-vacation. But for some reason, I had this unusual grumpy and unhappy feeling the whole time.

“Once she came back to town, it went away. I thought to myself, ‘That’s strange. Well, whatever.’”

“A couple months, I went on a business trip to Europe for a couple weeks. As the flight was taking off, I saw the area where her house was and that strange feeling came straight back.

“That is when I realized my connection to her was far deeper than I realized and had ever felt before and I needed to marry her. Fortunately, she agreed.”

4) TheOwlMarble wrote:

“I’m engaged, but I never really had a discrete moment where I decided I needed to marry her. I did notice while driving home from the first date that I was *waaaay* more concerned about what she thought of me than I had ever been after other first dates.

“We just kinda slid inevitably toward spending our lives together. There was no single moment, just an endless parade of small and wonderful ones.

“EDIT: I just asked her what her moment was, and apparently she had a dream a couple months before we started talking about marriage in which we were already engaged. When she woke up, she realized that was what she wanted.”

5) InannasPocket wrote, “Our first real fight. I don’t even remember what the fight was about, but I do remember walking down the street holding hands as we talked through it and both put effort into really understanding the other person’s perspective and thinking, ‘Yep, I could fight like this forever.’”

xnathan319 commented, “I love that! It’s so healthy to be able to have difficult conversations without one party feeling attacked or wanting to win rather than solve the problem. I’m very happy you guys have such a strong foundation.”

6) Admirabletoshie wrote, “She went on a murder spree in *Grand Theft Auto*. The way she would laugh as she ran over pedestrians was beautiful. I bought the ring online that night.”

LegitimateDonkey3274 wrote, “Love at first genocide.”

7) 2Shoes\_99 wrote, “We weren’t together long, but I knew he was the one when I woke up at 4am in intense pain. He got up, carried me back to the bedroom, and got me dressed. He then took me to the hospital and stayed with me for eight

hours in the waiting room, and then another six hours after I was seen by the doctor and put on an IV to treat what turned out to be a bad kidney infection. He never complained or gave any indication that he wanted to be anywhere other than there with me, and he's made me feel that way ever since. He's my person. That swipe right was the best decision I ever made. :)"

8) VonAshley wrote, "When I was buying my first flat and moving out from my parents' home, I asked my girlfriend if she wanted to move in with me right away. She said no, told me to live by myself for a bit because she thought it was important that I experience living alone and that she was sure I'd love it because my family home was so busy (big family plus mum running a childcare business from home). She was absolutely right, I did love it and when my girlfriend eventually moved in with me, we both respected each other's need for alone time and our own space. Basically, not being around her convinced me I needed to marry her!"

9) FairyDustSailor wrote:

"We were on a trip together, out in the wilderness in Colorado. We were in the middle of nowhere and got our car stuck. No cell service, no houses or businesses for many miles. To top it off, we had less than three hours before it would be dark.

"We got out, assessed the situation, came up with a plan, and just started working. We barely talked — not because anyone was angry but because we just didn't need to. Each of us just knew the next thing to do and we were just flowing.

"About an hour and a half later, we'd gotten the car free and we were heading back toward civilization. I thought about how amazingly well we had worked together. There was no arguing over how we ended up stuck, no whining, no snapping at each other.

“One of my exes would have stood there, clueless, and needed to be directed at all times. Another would have been whiny and pissy and snapping at me while stomping around. Not my husband!

“And that was when I knew he was 100% the one. If you can get through a tough situation like that and stay calm and cooperative together, you can probably get through just about anything. And we have!”<sup>43</sup>

#### **44. “What Is More Uncomfortable Than Seeing Your Grandmother In A Bikini?”**

1) Fraggity\_Frick wrote, “You’re wearing the same bikini, and it looks better on her.”

2) Marciem wrote, “Seeing my grandfather in a bikini.”<sup>44</sup>

#### **45. “What Kills A Relationship, Other Than Cheating?”**

1) Researcheresk wrote, “Lies.”

celesticaxxz commented, “Not only the blatant lies, but the little lies.”

ZerenTheUnskilled commented:

“The little white lies are the worst of them. My ex constantly did this and wasn’t even good at it most of the time.

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<sup>43</sup> Source: xnathan319, “Married people of Reddit, what was your ‘man I’d better marry them’ moment?” Reddit. AskReddit. 20 August 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/p889lr/married\\_people\\_of\\_reddit\\_what\\_was\\_your\\_man\\_id/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/p889lr/married_people_of_reddit_what_was_your_man_id/) >.

<sup>44</sup> Source: pew-de-pie, “What is more uncomfortable than seeing your grandmother in a bikini?” Reddit. AskReddit. 20 August 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/p8fne6/what\\_is\\_more\\_uncomfortable\\_than\\_seeing\\_your/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/p8fne6/what_is_more_uncomfortable_than_seeing_your/) >.

“The straw that broke the camel’s back was when she was found out to have been using a cheating die in our D&D game. The D20 she had had only the numbers 10-20 on it, so she almost never failed a roll.

“She wasn’t even ashamed or sorry. ‘It didn’t say I couldn’t in the rules, so I thought it was okay!’

“We got into an argument that eventually ended up with us breaking up that same night. I just couldn’t take the lies anymore.”

2) cballowe wrote, “Financial stress.”

fightniteflight12 commented, “This is actually the number one cause of divorce.”

superkoning asked, “But will divorce make your financial life even more difficult?”

bobdob123usa responded, “Not really. A friend of mine was decent with his money, but his wife was \$20,000 in debt on her credit cards. He even went so far as to pay them off once and tried to get her cards canceled. She just signed up for new ones and took two years to dig the same hole. He decided it was better not to be broke in retirement and cut bait. At least that way he isn’t responsible for her debts.”

3) steamedfarts wrote:

“One wants a kid and one doesn’t.

“You can’t compromise on that.”

Eton11 commented, “Have half of a kid.”

Unique\_Ad\_6679 asked, “How many cats add up to a kid?”

ALLEYS\_AERE\_URINALS answered, “Nine.”

why\_is\_my\_username responded, “So have 4.5 cats. Got it.”

Annual\_Blacksmith commented:

“One of my ex-friends divorced over this. They got together when younger. One of them wanted to be a parent really badly but they loved their partner so much that she tried making that compromise.

“You can push your own needs away for only so long. They were married for six-seven years I think and divorced a few years ago. Their relationship just kept getting more and more bitter to the point neglect entered the picture. (Guy definitely had other red flags than just their difference in the baby question, but that’s a different story.) They divorced, she found new love and is now a mother, and you can tangibly feel how much happier and content she is.

“She still says that she doesn’t regret her relationship with her ex. She *did* love him. It’s just the perfect example of ‘just because you love someone it doesn’t mean it’s meant to be.’”<sup>45</sup>

#### **46. “What’s The Most Painful Rejection You Ever Got?”**

1) ContrabutionPutrid18 wrote, “I went travelling through Sweden with a friend back in college, which was a lot longer ago than I want to admit. He was completely enamored with Swedish women and was continually attempting to seduce them. ‘Excuse me, do you speak English?’ he asked one of them one day, to which she replied, ‘Not today,’ and continued walking.”

CharlieTuna\_ commented:

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<sup>45</sup> Source: aplesssss1, “What kills a relationship, other than cheating?” Reddit. AskReddit. 22 August 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/p9ow0v/what\\_kills\\_a\\_relationship\\_other\\_than\\_cheating/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/p9ow0v/what_kills_a_relationship_other_than_cheating/) >.

“Ouch. I remember when I was backpacking Europe with my college roommate that we were in Germany waiting for an overnight train so we went for drinks nearby. We met these girls who were there and started getting along so we missed our train.

“So now we’re in town for the night so the girls were eager to show us around the nightlife. I can’t remember how we got separated, but I wound up going back to the bar where the insanely gorgeous waitress was giving me free drinks then offers to let me sleep in her car then she’ll drive me to her place to cook me breakfast in the morning. I’m trying to sleep and hear them banging on the window trying to get me to go with them. I didn’t want to because that waitress was *really* hot, but I went out drinking until 6am with them and then my college roommate and I got on our train and the girls gave us their contact info.

“Roommate and I part ways for a few days and he decides he’s going back to see those girls. Good, one of us better be getting laid after that night. Buddy shows up, lets them know it’s just him in town, and asks if they wanted to go out again. They tell him they’re lesbians and totally brush him off. He was devastated since we hit it off so well and they seemed excited to see us again.”

MoxEmerald commented:

“European women are just ...

“I was in Italy for a week and a half.

“It makes me OK with death. One day I can no longer be tortured by how insanely hot they are.”

Economy-Vanilla-967 responded, “I know I’ll be downvoted into oblivion for this, but the only reason European women are perceived as so ‘hot’ by Americans is that America is full of overweight, really badly dressed



women. (I mean wearing tracksuits, no makeup, etc., in public.) I am an average-looking woman and was shocked by the interest I received in the USA as soon as I touched down at the airport, and then within hours I realised the competition I was judged against was simply very weak. American women would mostly look great if only they were a normal weight and made a bit of an effort. (I know some do, but it's really the exception rather than the rule.)”

Ice\_Burn asked, “Midwest or South? Coastal Southern California is a different story.”

2) Ice\_Burn wrote, “I was at a concert at a club and had a place right on the stage. This beautiful woman was right next to me and we had a super fun time. A bunch of my friends were around us, too. When the show ended, we were all saying goodbye to each other and I asked her if she was single. She literally cringed and said, ‘Not really.’ (Of course, she was fibbing.) OK, no big deal. She kept apologizing and I kept telling her it was fine until it got uncomfortable and I went off to talk to my buddies. I didn’t mind at all. I was so proud of myself for having the balls to try.”

3) Therearenogoodnames wrote, “Asked a girl out in high school just before a week-long holiday, to which she had said yes and gave me her number. Every time I tried to call her ,she was miraculously not there, even though she could be heard in the background. Turns out she told her friends, all excited, and then her friends told her not to go through with it.”

shiguywhy commented, “She has either shit friends or really good friends. I can’t speak for the quality of character of Therearenogoodnames, but good friends see things in guys that you might not and will not hesitate to tell you if they think a guy is wrong for you or if they’ve heard something about him that makes him bad news. Bad friends tell you

some petty shit to make you not go through with it, like his shoes are ugly or he has a bad haircut.”

Therearenogoodnames responded, “This happened over 20 years ago, and I can’t even remember her name. There is no way I will ever know what she was told.”<sup>46</sup>

#### **47. “If Suddenly Every Woman Wanted To Have Sex With You, What Would You Do On Day 1?”**

HungryLikeTheWolf99 wrote:

“Find a shrink to treat my delusional disorder, I suppose.

“A male one, though, just to be safe.”<sup>47</sup>

#### **48. “What Will Never Not Be Funny?”**

mwwpnw wrote:

“My brother toot sharting repeatedly while hiccupping. We stopped at a rest stop whose bathroom was locked. He had to go ... then the hiccups came. Rode home wearing my dad’s t-shirt as pants.

“His new girlfriends love to hear that one.”

brew\_sip\_conquer commented:

“I had a *terrible* stomach bug in June 2020. I didn’t want to go to the hospital because COVID. My then-new boyfriend

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<sup>46</sup> Source: 99\_Megalodon\_99, “What’s the most painful rejection you ever got?” Reddit. AskReddit. 2 August 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/p9xp2z/whats\\_the\\_most\\_painful\\_rejection\\_you\\_ever\\_got/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/p9xp2z/whats_the_most_painful_rejection_you_ever_got/)>.

<sup>47</sup> Source: sportfiction, “If suddenly every woman wanted to have sex with you, what would you do on day 1?” Reddit. AskReddit. 25 August 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/pbbjqr/if\\_suddenly\\_every\\_woman\\_wanted\\_to\\_have\\_sex\\_with/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/pbbjqr/if_suddenly_every_woman_wanted_to_have_sex_with/)>.

came to take care of me while I repeatedly shit myself, then threw up, then shit myself, rinse repeat for two days straight. Finally, he made me go to the doctor because I was so dehydrated. They gave me meds and the like to ease the storm that was my GI tract. [gastro-intestinal] We were driving home in his brand-new Lexus and went over a bump — the last bit of distress exited my asshole, basically right on his leather seats due to my wearing only underwear and a t-shirt to keep pressure off my stomach.

“The sound. The smell. The everything. We were equally dying from laughter and disgust.

“He cleaned it up because I was still so weak from not ingesting fluids or actual food for almost three days / being under influence of some medicine that made me slightly loopy.

“It still cracks us up to this day, but man, it was gross. I love that guy.”<sup>48</sup>

#### **49. “Ladies Who Are Desired Sexually More Than They Are Romantically: How Do You Cope? How Has It Affected You In General?”**

The Original Poster of this question added that “this is not something « all women » face. While all women are sexualized, many get asked on dates, wined and dined, committed to / married and generally romanced; there is a category of women who do not get the opportunity to even be considered for those romantic gestures at all. All squares are rectangles, but not all rectangles are squares.”

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<sup>48</sup> Source: Soapie10, “What will never not be funny?” Reddit. AskReddit. 27 August 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/pcgm9j/what\\_will\\_never\\_not\\_be\\_funny/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/pcgm9j/what_will_never_not_be_funny/)>.

1) Kemokiro wrote:

“Isn’t that most of us from the age of eleven or so? Got to try our best to vet motherfuckers who are only looking for a lay, unless that’s all you want from them.

“I refused to date in high school because I found teen boys idiotic and undesirable. You don’t owe anyone your time, attention, affection, access to your body, or any sex act. You call the shots. Always be willing to walk away.”

yolosunshine commented:

“I also didn’t date in high school for exactly this reasoning.

“I’m gonna risk STI’s and pregnancy and endless boundary pushing for a « relationship » with someone who’s gonna leave me next week for my classmate?

“I decided to wait until brain caught up with the hormones in some boys later. It wasn’t like I didn’t want sex or romance, just not when we were all crazy.”

Redaerkoob commented, “I didn’t see the point in dating in high school at all. Seemed like my friends went through a lot of angst and trauma from bad relationships and breakups. No, thanks, I just binged romance novels instead and hung out with friends. Plus the women my family are VERY fertile, so I ran from that possibility. No babies for me before my mid-twenties.”

Remarkable\_Regret\_80 commented, “I think a majority of single guys is very open to casual sex with someone they find attractive. Somewhat unsurprisingly considering there is little safety concerns and in our culture men are basically celebrated more for ‘getting laid’ a lot. Meanwhile romantic desire for any gender requires actual connection and chemistry — the standards are just much higher.”

2) maid-for-hire wrote:

“It makes it very hard to find out which guy actually wants to date and which guy is just saying things to get in my pants.

“I thought dating women would help, but it’s been about the same. The last two girls I ‘dated’ things were going well until we slept together. After that I get told they just want to keep the relationship casual. Now they text me being all nice every couple weeks when in reality they’re looking for a booty call.

“It has really damaged my confidence in dating. I feel like everyone interested in me is doing it only to sleep with me. So now I’m perpetually single.”

McWonderWoman commented, “I tried dating a couple once, and that was enough to solidify that both men and women view me only as a sexual being. That’s flattering, yeah, to know at 40 I can still get it, but remember, people, there’s an actual person attached to this vagina. Lol.”

3) BiggestEgg wrote:

“For me, it’s an empathy gap. I will run into men who aren’t evil or nasty, but don’t seem to realize that I could have interests, motivations, experiences and emotions that exist independently of how they feel about me in the moment. Like all men understand that some dudes like to bro out with trucks and UFC [Ultimate Fighting Championship] and such, and some are more bookish and some are a mix. But men seem to have a lot of trouble understanding that women are independent entities who have a diversity of perspectives as well as personalities that are broader than what they do with men.

“These guys treat each other as individuals and women kind of like the Borg. Their ex did a thing 15 years ago? Well, we all must do it. His sister says she’s never been catcalled? Well, then none of us have and we’re just exaggerating. I

suspect the underlying monkey brain thought process is that men are people and women are ... Other.

“Again, I’m not saying you’re all evil ogres, just that some of you struggle to include women in your mental ‘Us.’ Some women do this to men as well; it’s just that women typically don’t have enough power to make it annoying.”

i\_illustrate\_stuff commented, “My brother was so much this way when he was younger. (He probably still is, but I don’t talk to him much since we don’t live near each other now.) He would go on and on about how ‘women all think this one way,’ and I’d be like, ‘I don’t.’ Which would always end with him being like, ‘Well, you’re just weird. Most women think this way with few exceptions.’ So any woman who didn’t fit his tiny categorical box is just a weird anomaly not worth factoring into his overall view of women. Like yeah, every woman will seem the same to you if you discount any woman who’s different.”

captain\_retrolicious commented:

“One interesting short read is the ‘Bechdel test’ (you can find it on Wikipedia among other places) which is a method of looking at women’s representation in films and other fiction. The test started as a bit of a joke, but then it was shocking how many films failed the test. The idea is to find a story that has two named female characters who talk to each other about anything other than a man.

“I’ve had male friends who truly think women just sit around and talk about men. Women, of course, talk about all sorts of things just like men do.

“One reason this test became important is because it showed how women were viewed in our cultural storytelling as one-dimensional objects or placeholders (in the US here). There was no real female experience represented. The other role women often had was the ‘catalyst’ for the male hero

meaning she was often a killed or raped wife / girlfriend to set the man onto the real story. She had no story of her own beyond being an object for the main male character's motivation. Another role of women in storytelling was to swoon and say, 'What do we do?' to a man when any crises arose. You'll see this a lot in older television.

"It's getting much better, but since you are asking I hope this helps to understand one area where women were portrayed as objects. It's sort of silent so there are no flashing lights announcing it. But once you see it, it's hard to unsee. The portrayal of women in entertainment is one area where we had to start advocating for our own humanity. Hey, not objects here!"

4) Tabbyannabel wrote, "I was on a dating site and a guy messaged me that 'I'd fuck you, but I would never want to date you.' Yeah, that messed with me. A lot of men have pursued me only for what I could offer sexually and it does make you think that you have nothing else to offer and that your worth is tied only to your sexuality. Luckily as I got older, I definitely realized my worth."<sup>49</sup>

## **50. "Married Couples, How Do You Turn Down Sex, Without Offending Your Spouse?"**

1) amblerina wrote, "No, babe, I'm full of ravioli."

Note by David Bruce: "No, babe, I ate a bad burrito, and I'm about to barf from both ends."

2) probably\_not\_serious wrote:

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<sup>49</sup> Source: GreatGospel97, "Ladies who are desired sexually more than they are romantically: how do you cope? How has it affected you in general?" Reddit. AskWomen. 28 August 2021 <  
[https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/p9druv/ladies\\_who\\_are\\_desired\\_sexually\\_more\\_than\\_they/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/p9druv/ladies_who_are_desired_sexually_more_than_they/)>.

“My wife prefers, ‘Oh, if it’s making you that horny, we can just cut it off,’ while making crazy eyes. By the time I’m done laughing, I’ve mostly forgotten about it.

“For a few hours anyway.”

3) jjjllaaa14 wrote, “After a while, crocodile.”

4) IrishB\_Cubed wrote, “Honestly, it happens only when I am ill. Usually she’ll notice anyway, but if she doesn’t, I just tell her and she tends to switch into ‘nurse mode’ instead.”

5) NotMrMike wrote:

“Wanna bone?”

“Nah, I’m not up for it tonight.”

“All right, love you.”

6) throwawayspank1017 wrote:

“As others have suggested, good communication is key. My wife and I have been married for over 10 years and we still have a great sex life.

“Our sex life is great because we communicate. Regularly when we start kissing the other like there’s something about to happen, one of us will ask the other what they’d like. Sometimes the answer is to just make out, or cuddle, or I’d like to give you some oral, or I’d like to get some oral, or I’d just like a good orgasm. It doesn’t need to be super detailed. After more than a decade, I’m pretty good at rockin’ her boat and she’s pretty good at rockin’ mine.

“And if one of us isn’t in the mood, we just say so. ‘I’m not up for it tonight.’ ‘I’m not feeling it right now, so can we try tomorrow?’ ‘My guts aren’t happy right now.’

“And I know that I have an awesome wife because if I’m going crazy and our schedule has been off or we’ve been out



of sync I can tell her that I ‘need’ this and she’ll make herself available to me within the next 24 hours, but usually much quicker than that. And I’ll do likewise for her. Neither of us abuse that privilege.

“If this is a regular thing that she’s interested and you’re not and you’re concerned about it, there is zero shame in talking to a doctor about it. They can check testosterone levels and other things. I say this as someone who has had that conversation with his doctor. Turned out for me it was one of my meds. We changed to a different drug and the problem went away. I have a friend with low testosterone. He gets shots once a month. I’ve got another friend who’s type 2 diabetic. He uses the little blue pill. There’s no shame in any or all of this. Also communicate this kind of stuff with your spouse, too.”<sup>50</sup>

### **51. “Men Of The Reddit, How Did It Feel The First Time You Got A Blowjob?”**

iranoverstonecold wrote:

1) “First time getting a blowjob? Meh.

“First time getting a GOOD blowjob? Felt like I was having an out-of-body experience.”

Outlaw\_Cobra\_Academy wrote, “It really be like that. The first person I got one from talked big game, but it really wasn’t all that. I honestly just thought that I didn’t like blowjobs all that much.”

Semi-Pro\_Biotic wrote:

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<sup>50</sup> Source: That-Guy-AJS, “Married couples. How do you turn down sex, without offending your spouse?” Reddit. AskReddit. 28 August 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/pda1q5/married\\_couples\\_how\\_do\\_you\\_turn\\_down\\_sex\\_without/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/pda1q5/married_couples_how_do_you_turn_down_sex_without/) >.

“Yeah. First girl I asked her to do it twice. Did not enjoy. Second girl offered. It was a miserable painful experience. I started telling girls I didn’t enjoy it. When I realized girls were either happy to know that it wasn’t going to be requested or that they had been offering it as a cheap substitute for sex, I started being really open about how little I liked it. A female coworker, LOL, told me I just hadn’t had a good one. Met a girl online, first date there was some kissing. She offered to blow me, and I said they didn’t do it for me. Tells me she doesn’t feel comfortable having sex on the first date and that she wants to try to change my mind.

“Ladies and Gentlemen, holy shit did she change my mind. It was like crazy dramatic *Sex In The City*-level experience. God bless that girl. Anyway, from my car I texted just ‘I like them now.’ She texted back, ‘Yay, friend! I’m so happy for you!’”

2) Royal\_Blood25 wrote, “Underwhelming since I had a condom on that wasn’t made for them and she said she had never given one before. Received one later from a girl who knew her stuff and my knees melted away and I collapsed. She could have sucked the soul right out of a person.”

3) TrulyMaverick wrote, “My first blowjob was a lot of fun, my girlfriend at the time and I had to sneak around to play around. That made it a lot of fun, but these days, I find most women over hype their game because a majority of men make it seem like a good blowjob is absolutely a be all end all facet of sex. It’s not, and most times I turn them down, unless of course she can confidently promise me no teeth. I hands down prefer eating pussy to getting my dick slobbered on, but a good, sloppy, mid-fuck blowie does have its perks. It’s all a matter of personal preference. If you and your partner are super into each other and vibe, it’s all good any time ya entangle.”

4) Clephless wrote:

“Blowjobs are HIGHLY overrated and require much more skill than is immediately assumed. If someone says they give good head, they are probably full of shit.

“Also! Don’t be afraid to TALK TO YOUR PARTNER ABOUT YOUR PREFERENCES! If they are doing something you don’t like, tell them!

“Some people like most of the blowjob to be full-shaft deep throats, others like more focus on the head.

“Some people like a light grazing of teeth on occasion, others will curse your ancestors for touching them with your teeth.

“Some people like their balls fondled while receiving a blowjob, others don’t.

“Some people like eye contact, others don’t.

“Some people like to be sitting, others like lying, others like standing.

“Take my advice with a grain of salt, because I am a trans woman, and didn’t enjoy a blowjob until well into hormone treatment and in a relationship I trusted.

“The first time I got a blowjob I didn’t cum, and I went soft during it. Probably made that girl feel real shitty about herself that day.”

condemned02 wrote:

“Well, as a woman who always asks men how they like their blowjobs done, seriously, I get a different answer every time.

“The reality is, men, you gotta train your woman to blow you the way you like it.

“If she is taught by a previous guy, that is what he likes but you might hate it.”<sup>51</sup>

## **52. Redditors With Partners Of 10+ Years, What Effort Do You Put Into Keeping Your Relationship Strong And Happy After All This Time?”**

lokishhhake wrote, “We like to swing. We got a beautiful two-person canopy swing in our yard where we put our phones away and just chat.”<sup>52</sup>

## **53. “What Was The Worst Timing Where You Got Your Period?”**

1) dindia91 wrote, “I got my 1st period in 7th grade. We were currently learning about Ebola in science class. I was unaware what exactly a period was. I remember truly believing that I was dying. My mom found me crying in my room because I was convinced I had Ebola. I told her we needed to talk through the door so I don’t kill her. It took everything she had to not burst out laughing at me. I had written my last wishes out and everything.”

2) Janetceferina wrote:

“Freshman year of high school. I got my period in the middle of math class, which was also like the beginning of the day. Bled through my pants and onto the seat and everyone in my

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<sup>51</sup> Source: Loom4f, “Men of the reddit. How did it feel the first time you got a blowjob?” Reddit. AskReddit. 28 August 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/pd931j/men\\_of\\_the\\_reddit\\_how\\_did\\_it\\_feel\\_the\\_first\\_time/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/pd931j/men_of_the_reddit_how_did_it_feel_the_first_time/) >.

<sup>52</sup> Source: lalaland7799, “Redditors with partners of 10+ years, what effort do you put into keeping your relationship strong and happy after all this time?” Reddit. AskReddit. 29 August 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/pdpy1w/redditors\\_with\\_partners\\_of\\_10\\_years\\_what\\_effort/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/pdpy1w/redditors_with_partners_of_10_years_what_effort/) >.

class saw it. I had to go to the nurses office to get some pads. Lol.

“Later that day in science class one of the guys in my class said, ‘I heard you got your period in class.’ And I was like ‘Yeah, I did. And?’ and he was like, ‘Oh, ok.’

“I am 27 now and I’m proud as fuck of myself for answering like that even though I remember I was actually really embarrassed and dying inside. Go, 14-year-old me. Lol.

“Now I don’t give a fuck. I’ll let everyone know I’m on my period or bled through my pants and gotta go home. I’m a woman and I bleed for a week once a month unless I’m pregnant. Get over it. Ahahah.”

3) HeatherAnne1975 wrote, “My very first period was right before my (Catholic) confirmation ceremony. I picked out the nicest white dress and was so worried about leaking. I wore about four pairs of shorts under that dress.”

4) Crafty\_Dragon\_roll wrote:

“It was my first one. It started young, at nine. I was in 5th and we hadn’t learned about periods at all. My mom had said something about it, but I didn’t really understand.

“I was at home and suddenly I could feel something warm and wet. I went to the bathroom. I thought I was dying because my panties were covered with blood. (Well, what my nine-year-old brain thought was all blood.) I started to cry and my dad came to the door asking what was wrong. I just yelled out I was going to die and he walked on in.

“Took one look and says, ‘You started your period. I’m going to get your mom. You aren’t dying,’ and walked right back out. My mom came and helped and told me exactly what was happening.

“The next week she came to my class with a bunch of little calendars for the rest of the girls in my class, then proceeded to explain what a period is, how to prepare, and everything. A couple of the boys were mad they didn’t get a PMS calendar, too. Lol.”

5) Forsaken\_Passage\_625 wrote, “I got my period at the exact moment when my date was standing outside my door to meet me. It was raining and cold and dark and he was waiting for me to get to the door. Inside, though, my uterus’ floodgates had opened. I’d never bled so much so quickly. There was a puddle on the floor. My date was calling me and knocking on the door and he could hear me inside frantically getting a towel and trying to find clean clothes and wipe myself up.”

6) YCF86 wrote, “In the middle of a date. I wondered why he kept unabashedly staring at my butt when we walked out. I had bled through the back of my dress.”

\_\_nowl\_\_ asked, “And he didn’t tell you?”

YCF86 answered, “Nope.”

Writer\_Girl04 commented, “Wow, what an ass.”

7) Alpa\_chino69 wrote:

“Oh, man. I’ll never forget this. I was 14, and in band. I had made 1st chair and it was important to be there every day, as attendance counted just as much as performance. I had gotten my period only once before so I wasn’t really clear on what to expect.

“Well, I wake up and go to band practice like always. Mind you, it’s summer band camp and in Texas, so we get to wear shorts and what not. We started the day doing marching drills and then moved inside to practice. I sat down and we got started, and I felt this weird warmth coursing through my

... undercarriage. I kept playing, but it kept getting worse. I could feel it pooling in my underwear and I was terrified to get up. I finally had to raise my hand and meekly ask to go to the bathroom, and I hastily got up and kind of back-walked toward the end of the band hall. I went to the bathroom and my shorts were soaked through. I cleaned myself as best I could with paper towels and shoved wads of toilet paper down there. I ended up walking home without telling anyone at school (thankfully, it was only half a mile from my house) and let myself in and sat in the tub and bawled my eyes out, I was so embarrassed.

“Never left the house again without a pad after that.”

8) Chaos-XV wrote, “At the gynecologist. She literally opened my legs and said ‘Oh, you just started, lemme grab some wipes.’ It was my first time there and while it’s hilarious now, at the time it sent me into an anxiety attack because I’d been so terrified beforehand.”

9) lolfuckno wrote, “It’s a tie between at my aunt and uncle’s wedding reception where I didn’t bring any pads and had to borrow liners from my mom that did NOT work but thankfully that wasn’t noticeable, and at my high school during 4th period halfway through my senior year because the VP [Vice Principal] was sitting in a desk outside both the male and female bathrooms but was known to only ask for the girls’ hall passes, and when I gave him mine he started interrogating me about it and was telling me to go back to class because he didn’t believe me when I said, ‘I have to use the washroom,’ so I took my pad out from my back pocket and said, ‘I need to use the washroom because I am currently bleeding heavily from my vagina. Either help me with the problem by letting me use the washroom or fuck off and let me use the washroom.’ He was a little stunned and let me in, but I was super embarrassed and was in tears in the bathroom so when I got back to class I told my teacher

because she could tell I was upset, and a bunch of other girls (and guys who'd thought his behaviour was weird as fuck) verified what he'd been doing. She said she'd handle it and he never did that again while I was there and instead did a bunch of other disrespectful things that made 1000+ people despise him simultaneously."

10) 18hundreds wrote, "Few minutes before I had to scrub in and assist a surgery as a medical student. I didn't want to give up my spot because it was probably my only chance. Luckily a surgeon offered me a tampon when I was panic-searching for one in the changing room."<sup>53</sup>

#### **54. "Ladies, What Is Your Power Move During Sex?"**

Uereks wrote:

"This one I call THE INIGO MONTOYA.

"I start with my hand and get him nice and hard if he isn't already. Then I get his pants down and get right down to some mouth stuff while still intermittently stroking. I pull out all the moves. Change positions and lift my top up so the boobies are everywhere. Suck, suck, stroke, stroke, bob, bob. And then right when he's working up a pretty good heat, that's when I make my move, because you see ... I am not left handed."

dilznip asked, "Can someone explain, please?"

greatpiginthesky explained:

"There's a scene in *The Princess Bride* with Westley and Inigo Montoya having a sword fight, both holding their

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<sup>53</sup> Source: gehlol, "What was the worst timing where you got your period?" Reddit. AskWomen. 28 August 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/pdlnv7/what\\_was\\_the\\_worst\\_timing\\_where\\_you\\_got\\_your/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/pdlnv7/what_was_the_worst_timing_where_you_got_your/) >.



swords in their left hands, Westley asks Inigo why he is smiling, and Inigo basically says, ‘Because you see ... I am not left-handed!’ And he then switches his sword to his right (dominant) hand and begins to outmatch Wesley, before Wesley reveals that he is not left-handed either.

“Anyone who hasn’t seen that movie seriously must watch it.”<sup>54</sup>

### **55. “Pro-Life Women Of Reddit, Why?”**

DepressedCottagecore wrote, “For most of my life, I considered myself to be pro-life and I couldn’t understand why on earth anyone would / could consider being pro-choice. I constantly equated being pro-choice to being pro-abortion and knew I never wanted to consider that option for myself or anyone. But when I turned 17, everything changed. Less than a week after my 17th birthday, I was raped by an ex-boyfriend and I was pregnant. Living with two abusive parents and the fact that I was being stalked by my ex-boyfriend and was being threatened by him, I was terrified. I was a baby having a baby and I knew both of our lives were in danger. I knew that something was going to happen and that it was up to me. In my head I briefly thought of Abortion as an option to spare my child from being abused like I was. But then I realized that I would never be able to live with myself no matter what happened if I did that. So I made the choice to keep the child. I was going to go through the pregnancy and give her or him up for adoption so they could have a better life. Unfortunately, I didn’t get to keep the child because due to no prenatal care and an unknown medical condition, I miscarried and almost died in my bathroom at

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<sup>54</sup> Source: Potential\_Rain\_2758, “Ladies, what is your power move during sex?” Reddit. AskWomen. 3 August 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/pffhhl/ladies\\_what\\_is\\_your\\_power\\_move\\_during\\_sex/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/pffhhl/ladies_what_is_your_power_move_during_sex/) >.

10 weeks. But after all the heartache and trauma of it happening, I realized that it was still a choice and I made mine. When you're a parent or a human being, you have to make the best decisions for you and all around you and I did that. Regardless of my miscarriage, it was still in my mind the right thing to do. I will stand by my decision, but knowing how hard and heartbreaking that experience was, I will never judge another person going through that. And that is why I think other pro-life advocates don't understand why having a choice is so important. They've never been in a situation where they've never needed choices and at the end of the day they never will understand unless they have. Pro-Choice does not have to mean Pro-Abortion. It simply means to offer help in any way possible to people in terrible situations. And hopefully something good will come out of this, and there will come a time where no one has to make the terrible choice again."<sup>55</sup>

## **56. “How Many Dates Does It Take You To Decide If You’re Romantically / Sexually Interested In Somebody?”**

1) eichhoernchen404 wrote, “I need five seconds to know if I want to sleep with you.”

dystopian\_mermaid commented:

“I was gonna say... I feel like I already know before the date happens. But granted I wasn't a big dater and mainly dated / slept with guys I already knew through friends / social circles.

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<sup>55</sup> Source: CoffeeGood\_, “Pro-life women of Reddit, why?” Reddit. AskReddit. 3 September 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/phdrpg/prolife\\_women\\_of\\_reddit\\_why/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/phdrpg/prolife_women_of_reddit_why/) >.

“There have been a couple surprises along the way (funnily enough, my husband; I just never looked at him that way for a looong time), but once he made it clear he was DTF [Down To Fuck], that was all I needed. We still laugh about the line he used to get me into bed.”

dystopian\_mermaid added:

“So we’d been hanging out as friends for a bit (I literally had ZERO clue he was interested in me AT ALL), and we were walking back to his place from the bar, and I said something about it being late, and not wanting to drive, could I crash on his couch? And he said I could sleep in his bed. And I said, ‘Well, I don’t want to steal *your* bed. That isn’t cool.’

“His response (which literally caused me to bust out laughing right then) was ‘It can *BE* you sleeping in my bed without it being you *STEALING* my bed ...’ and in that moment I was in my head like OOOOOOH OK. He’s DTF! Went back to his place and did the deed. A lot.

“Been together seven years now. Lmao. The love story that fairy tales are made of.”

AIEYEMONSTER commented, “Ran into my Significant Other at a random party, never met / seen her before. I was walking in the house as she was being escorted out by her girlfriends (she had had entirely too much to drink) she caught a glimpse of me walking in and says, loud as fuck, ‘I’m gonna fuck him one day.’ Caught me off guard, laughed my ass off about it. Didn’t actually meet her until months later, developed a friendship pretty quick annnnnd now I have a son with my best friend. We laugh about it from time to time.”

2) schwarzmalerin wrote, “I need five seconds to know a no. A yes might develop later from a maybe.”

pitter\_patterclock commented, “I don’t know if I will want to sleep with that person I find attractive after five seconds. But they definitely enter a ‘something could happen.’ But if they become really good friends, they go from Maybe to Never.”

3) aud\_antiline wrote, “I think this question is not set up well for a straight answer. It assumes romantic and sexual attraction are the same when really it’s a scale. There are certainly people I am certain I would fuck within seconds / minutes of meeting them, but never want to be romantically involved with. But romance, oh romance, (when destined for long-term success) is about the slow burn. When you get to know someone for longer, you get to see the beauty of their character and quirks over time and what lights them up. I think that takes time.”<sup>56</sup>

### **57. “How Did You Meet The Last Person You Dated?”**

1) MagentaX wrote, “I was viewing an apartment that I was going to rent; he was a friend of the owner and dropped by while I was there. When I saw him, I lost the ability to brain. Didn’t end well, but for a year I had the best sex ever.”

2) tvbookpastaworm wrote:

“Yup, OkCupid. Went on the site to meet people and to have some fun. I met him in person after chatting for a bit. I thought he was cute and we could have fun together, like I said. He was the first guy I chose to meet. First date, I ended up thinking, ‘Oh, shit, I’m in trouble.’ I was smitten pretty quickly.

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<sup>56</sup> Source: TrissRissBiss, “How many dates does it take you to decide if you’re romantically / sexually interested in somebody?” Reddit. AskReddit. 3 September 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/ph3zdi/how\\_many\\_dates\\_does\\_it\\_take\\_you\\_to\\_decide\\_if/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/ph3zdi/how_many_dates_does_it_take_you_to_decide_if/) >.

“That was eight years ago. He’s currently sleeping next to me as I type this.”

3) Tough-Rip-4755 wrote, “He was a repair guy whom I hired to do some work around my new house at the time. He was a family friend and when I brought up to my mom the work I wanted to do she told me about him. We spent every day for two months working on the house together and talking. A couple months after my house was done, he reached out to me after some conversations with my mom. He didn’t think I would ever go for him and he’s shy so it took him a bit to make a move. He came over and cooked me dinner and that was that! He started staying the night a couple weeks later and hasn’t ever left.”

4) StVirgin wrote, “He invited me for a dance and we spent the rest of the night dancing together (about five hours). We started dating long distance with me flying over every month or so. More dancing and dinners. This went on for four months; we never got to proper sex. He lived with his adult daughter and grandkid, so no proper privacy there. And I didn’t want our first intimate union to happen in my hotel room. He was to travel to me, but then COVID lockdown happened. Add some more life events and the break got too long, we drifted apart. Long distance is hard, and I’m actually grateful that we didn’t get to sex.”<sup>57</sup>

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<sup>57</sup> Source: incognitomiskwito, “How did you meet the last person you dated?” Reddit. AskWomen. 5 September 2021 <  
[https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/pi8p9k/how\\_did\\_you\\_meet\\_the\\_last\\_person\\_you\\_dated/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/pi8p9k/how_did_you_meet_the_last_person_you_dated/)>.

## 58. “If You’ve Ever Confronted A Partner About Cheating, How Did She / He Immediately React?”

The Original Poster of this question added, “Did they try to lie or be upfront, and for how long? Curious to hear people’s experiences.”

1) Allegutennamenweg wrote:

“I shit you not, he said they wanted to surprise me with a threesome and were practising behind the scenes. The nerve of this guy.

“Way to weaponise my bisexuality.”

2) iusedtobefamous1892 wrote, “He went silent, tried denying it for about 30 seconds until I asked questions he couldn’t answer, and then started crying.”

3) Kemokiro wrote, “My face was cold as I pushed a bullet-pointed, yellow legal pad, full of evidence his way. Dumb-founded, Deer-in-Headlights would be how I would describe his reaction. So satisfying.”

4) Humdedummy wrote, “He immediately admitted it with zero feeling. ‘Yep. Sorry.’ *Shrug*. Just completely deadpan and then stared at me with no expression. Honestly didn’t know what to do with myself so I turned and walked away. I don’t think I’ve ever had a less genuine apology.”

5) Jolly\_Willingness174 wrote, “My husband came home from work with everything he owned thrown over the balcony and doors locked!”<sup>58</sup>

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<sup>58</sup> Source: Chinychia, “If you’ve ever confronted a partner about cheating, how did she/he immediately react?” Reddit. AskWomen. 5 September 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/pi7zgb/if\\_youve\\_ever\\_confronted\\_a\\_partner\\_about\\_cheating/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/pi7zgb/if_youve_ever_confronted_a_partner_about_cheating/) >.

## 59. “What Small Details Can Make A Marriage Successful And Happy?”

arandomproton wrote, “Respecting each other’s sleep cycle.”

QuestionableMotifs commented, “Slightly related: sleep in the own bed, but let each person have their own blanket. We have two separate full-size down comforters on our king bed, and it’s been a life-changer. Mine is a heavier weight and his is very light, and we never have to worry about hogging the covers.”

Tumb-l-Weed commented, “My boyfriend and I have been sleeping under separate blankets from the beginning of our relationship and it’s the best! Most people I’ve told this consider it strange until they actually try it out for themselves. His quality of sleep is much better since I’m not pulling away the blanket at night while I’m twisting and turning. (I’m a restless sleeper.) I don’t overheat from being under the same blanket with him. (He generates a lot of body heat.) We still cuddle under one blanket before falling asleep and after waking up, so it’s not like it means there is less closeness. Only better-quality sleep.”

for\_the drama wrote, “And if there’s kids involved: Who gets to sleep in needs to be shared evenly! This goes with sleep schedule. But my (soon-to-be ex-) husband NEVER lets me get to be the one to sleep in. Ever. It’s bull.”

saamsieucontzic commented:

“When we first started the relationship, it was awesome. Everything perfect. After two or three months, out of the blue, she started to act very nasty with me. All signs she’s unhappy with our relationship. It was getting worse week by week. One night, for some reason, the cat started to meow and I went in the living room to make it stop and fell asleep

on the couch. The next day, this gorgeous and happy creature [wife, not the cat] went out of our bedroom.

“Turns out, I was snoring and she couldn’t sleep so since then, I sleep on the couch.

“I went past the strange ‘I’m in a relationship, but I can’t sleep with my wife in the same bed’ moment pretty quickly and we are back to being awesome.”

stupid\_comments\_inc commented, “There are things that can alleviate snoring, but if you’re happy with the arrangement, and it doesn’t bother you, I’ll just say congratulations on solving the problem.”

UnfinishedThings wrote, “My wife and I sleep in separate rooms. I’m a night owl and I snore. She’s an early-to-bed type of person but is a quilt hogger and middle-of-the-bed starfisher. Originally started because I had a bad cough and slept in the spare room so I didn’t keep her awake. Discovered the next day that we were both better rested and much nicer people. Been doing it ever since (12 years or so). Best thing we did.”<sup>59</sup>

## **60. “Has Anyone Ever Witnessed An Objection At A Wedding? What’s The Juicy Details?”**

1) 6xtine7 wrote, “Nothing juicy. But I was the flower girl at my aunt’s wedding. I was five at the time. I thought that when she got married, she would leave and I would never see her again. So I was bawling at the ceremony and

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<sup>59</sup> Source: QuintessentialDrudi, “What small details can make a marriage successful and happy?” Reddit. AskReddit. 5 September 2021 <  
[https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/pipkh5/what\\_small\\_details\\_can\\_make\\_a\\_marriage\\_successful/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/pipkh5/what_small_details_can_make_a_marriage_successful/) >.



screaming, ‘No! No! No! I object! I object!’ Everyone thought it was so cute.”

2) Ariadne\_Kenmore wrote:

“It wasn’t an objection. At a former co-worker’s wedding, they wrote their own vows and when it came time for the groom to say his, he turned to the people in the church, threw both hands into the air, and yelled, ‘Wooooo! I love the girl! She’s hot!’

“They lasted about two years. It turned out that he’d been chatting up girls online since they had started dating and, if memory serves, was cheating on her while she was pregnant.”

3) Kriskao wrote:

“The first time I got married, I was 21 and my wife was 20. In our country she was not old enough to sign her wedding certificate, her mother had to sign for her.

Also, she was very visibly pregnant and we both were stressed and had been crying.

“Each one of us had decided not to get married and then changed our minds in the months leading to the actual wedding. It was well known to us and everyone else that we were doing it only because of the pregnancy.

“So during the ceremony, one of her uncles said he objected, for all the reasons mentioned above.

“We actually stopped, and she got to another room and talked with her family for some 30 minutes.

“Then they came out and said we should go through with it, and we did. We lasted less than one year before the divorce.”

4) Sick\_Nips\_Bro wrote:

“It wasn’t at the wedding, but at my friend’s bachelor party we all got drunk and accidentally started a mini-intervention for him.

“His wife is a bitch and we knew all the way back then. He didn’t care and now he’s miserable.”

dramboxf commented:

“When my best friend got married, we had a car positioned at a door that was about 20 feet from the altar. We told him if he changed his mind, we would get him out of there instantly.

“He married her.

“It’s been an absolute miserable life for him since. I feel so bad for him.”

5) suroptpsychologist wrote, “Not an objection. I bartended weddings for years. This one in particular was golden. The groom apparently had found out prior to the wedding day that his best man was fucking his fiancée for the entirety of the engagement. The dude kept his cool and came up with a plan. He married her at the big church in front of both of their families. They all showed up to the reception (300+). Before the best man speech, the groom grabbed the mic. He thanked everyone for coming, and he apologized on behalf of Ashley and Chris. That’s when he told the entire reception that he found out two weeks earlier that the two were having an affair behind his back. He told everyone to enjoy the dinner (which now that it was starting to be served meant the father of the bride was now on the hook for 100% of the cost), told her he would be annulling the marriage first thing next week, and told his friend he would be seeing him for a fist chat. Dude dropped the mic and left. Bride freaked out and ran to the bathroom crying. The bride’s family flipped their shit. The groomsmen started to beat up the best man, and I just sat back and watched the chaos play out. What a night.”

6) Rakkachi wrote, “My father always made jokes that he would object if I got married. But in the Netherlands, this is not asked anymore, so we arranged that he would be asked directly during the ceremony. Surprise, Dad, here’s your chance. Guess what? ‘No comment,’ he said with a big red head and a smile. They always say that your wedding day is the best day of your live and it’s true. I never laughed so hard.”

7) Plankgonemad wrote:

“It was a train wreck.

“Bride was so much better than the abusive creep she was supposed to marry. She planned to leave him, but she felt like she had to marry him because she got a positive pregnancy test. During the ceremony, his own brother objected that he had tampered with her birth control to force her to stay with him.

“He came with receipts, too. Text messages and voicemails bragging about how it worked, she was pregnant and how he was cheating on her. Finally, the dude’s mom tried to stop him, but he snapped at her that she was an enabling bitch and he wasn’t going to let this go on.

“The bride said she wasn’t going to marry him and we bridesmaids grabbed her and bolted.

“She ended up miscarrying shortly after that, so no co-parenting relationship needed to happen, and he’s completely stonewalled from all information on her.”

8) ALamojunkie wrote, “Not an objection, but I did see a bride not follow through and leave the guy at the altar. Turns out he did some sketchy shit at his bachelor party and she was having none of it. Watched this guy bawl his eyes out and tell everyone to go to the reception and enjoy dinner. I

was running sound at the wedding, so I didn't get to go to the reception, but man, I really wanted to."<sup>60</sup>

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<sup>60</sup> Source: Prudent\_Passenger596, "Has anyone ever witnessed an objection at a wedding? What's the juicy details?" Reddit. AskReddit. 6 September 2021 <  
[https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/pj3kwa/has\\_anyone\\_ever\\_witnessed\\_an\\_objection\\_at\\_a/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/pj3kwa/has_anyone_ever_witnessed_an_objection_at_a/)>.

## Chapter 4: Stories 61-80

### 61. “Why Do You Work Out?”

Ok-Orange-3927 wrote, “So people will have sex with me without it being a fat fetish.”<sup>61</sup>

### 62. “What Was The Most Important Random Encounter You’ve Had?”

1) FerdyWilson 3 wrote, “Went to a party wearing my old Batman hoodie. Some girl really liked Batman. Had sex and when I woke up, my hoodie was gone.”

2) p38-lightning wrote, “While in college I did some photography work for the marketing department of a theme park. A tall, pretty girl in one of the shops made faces at me when I tried to take her picture. Several years later I went to a jewelry store to get a battery for my watch and she was working behind the counter. I was glad I had a conversation starter because we hit it off right away and went out to lunch together. Been married 38 years now.”

3) Back2Bach wrote:

“After a concert, I was introduced to the love of my life by a mutual friend — an encounter that set life on an amazing new course for both of us.

“Turns out that we had attended the same university, had been to the same concerts and other events, but had never met until that special moment.”

4) belldamesansmerci wrote, “I’m from London but have family in Ireland and used to spend all my summers there as

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<sup>61</sup> Source: poeticpiririm wrote, “Why do you workout?” Reddit. AskReddit. 6 September 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/pjaqei/why\\_do\\_you\\_workout/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/pjaqei/why_do_you_workout/) >.

a kid. Anyway, a few years back I'm stuck waiting for a night bus in another UK [United Kingdom] town at like 3am and there's one other girl waiting there and a creepy dude who keeps hitting on us. We basically start chatting to have an excuse to ignore him, and I notice she has an Irish accent. I ask what part of the country she's from and she answers with my family's hometown. Turns out I played with her regularly when we were five and our grannies are BFFs [Best Friends Forever]. Neither of us had recognised each other or even knew the other was living there, just random chance."

5) Thin\_Host wrote, "I went to help a disabled gentleman who had gotten his wheelchair wedged between his minivan and the parking lot curb. He was really nice and thanked me profusely. Later, I was reading and drinking coffee when he rolled over and thanked me again and introduced me to his wife. We talked and realized that I had gone to school with his niece and that his wife knew my dad. (Hawaii is a small place.) Fast forward a few months and they asked me to house sit their place on the Big Island and take care of their pets while they went on vacation. It was the first time I left Oahu and the first time I lived alone. It was a really special time for me, a kind of formative moment in my life when I had time and space all to myself. Just really happy memories from those six weeks."

6) Worlds\_Best\_Coffee wrote:

"I worked at CompUSA in Baton Rouge, LA, in their computer repair shop. It was shit. There were invisible 'sales goals' we had to meet, the team there was fucking creepy — they took every computer and first thing they did was look through your personal photos for nudes or stuff they could otherwise copy, take home, and beat it to. It sucked.

"A customer came to pick up his computer, and he was an older gentleman and his computer was comedically large so I offered to carry it to his car for him. When he opened the

trunk of his car, there were architectural manuals and I mentioned I studied drafting. He gave me his card, that card led to a job, which led a year later to a completely different card, which led to a career.

“If I hadn’t carried his computer, there’s a good chance I’m still in IT 20 years later and still not great at it.”

7) United-Young-9339 wrote, “I was in Cambodia at a restaurant and the daughter of the restaurant about age 10 was serving us. As she brought us our food, she said, ‘Food is just a vessel for the sauce,’ which made me love sauces even more.”

8) thesquirrelbro wrote:

“I work for DoorDash.

“I was going around doing my deliveries one day, an average, kinda boring day, when I get an order for this one restaurant I’d never been to. Didn’t even know they were on the app. So I take it and I go this restaurant.

“This waitress who was there working the front and helped me get the order ... she was ... kinda amazing.

“I don’t know her, and I met her only twice (then and another delivery like a week later and then never anything else). She left kind of the greatest first impression I’ve ever had. And I’m usually a very socially anxious person, but I just found myself effortlessly talking to her, too.

“I wouldn’t use the term ‘love at first sight’ or anything because I don’t really believe in that being a thing and again, I don’t know her, and also she was a waitress and so 98% she was probably just being nice.

“But she blew me away, man, and I STILL think of her sometimes. Wish we could meet again one day, but we most likely won’t. Que sera.”

Timdropped asked, “Ever thought of asking her out?”

thesquirrelbro responded, “Well, sure, but like I said, I never saw her again after the second time, never got another order there. And it would be REALLY weird, especially after so much time has passed, for me to just walk in there for that sole purpose. That gets you restraining orders.”

moreLOGIClessEMOTION commented, “If only there were a reason you could go to the restaurant for a chance meeting with her. ... I’ll try to think up a reason over dinner tonight and I’ll get back to you if I come up with anything.”

Userdub9022 added, “I’ll think about it over lunch today just in case you can’t think of anything.”<sup>62</sup>

### **63. “Parents Of Reddit, What’s Like Having Girls Versus Having Boys?”**

1) chellperry wrote, “Girls are more expensive, boys are harder to keep alive. Absolute truth.”

VxGB111 commented, “Girls are more expensive until you factor in all the doctor’s visits from keeping the boys alive.”

chellperry responded, “I don’t know. If you count 8th grade, my daughter went to six proms. Insurance had a deductible. Not even kidding.”

chellperry added, “When she graduated and started dating a senior, I about died. I would rather be punched in the face than shop for prom dresses.”

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<sup>62</sup> Source: Theresapson, “What was the most important random encounter you’ve had?” Reddit. AskReddit. 7 September 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/pji52p/what\\_was\\_the\\_most\\_important\\_random\\_encounter/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/pji52p/what_was_the_most_important_random_encounter/) >.



zshadimarfeld commented, “I have three boys: 4, 5, 9. It’s non-stop fart and poop talk on top of fighting.”

Lokiberry316 commented, “Don’t forget the dare-devil stunts and tree climbing! I’ve got a couple of boys and I swear they were barely 12 months old when I had to start punctuate sentences with ‘Get off the mantlepiece’ or ‘Don’t stand on the table.’ Throughout the lockdowns, I’d joke my kids would social distance vertically, since they’re always bloody climbing.”

AppropriaeManager33 commented, “I am a guy and I still have some scars. Most prominent the small cut on the end of my right eyebrow. When I was seven, I was dancing on the dining table while my mother was in the shower and my father was looking after me. He was on his phone and thought that I wasn’t going to harm myself dancing, but I jumped from the table and fell down hitting my head on the corner of the chair. I got stitches and honestly, the small scar cutting the end of my right eyebrow seems kinda sexy now. ;-)”

Complex\_Art\_350 commented, “36/male. I fell out of a second-story bathroom window when I was two. Had to get stitches in my head twice from standing on the arm of a couch and falling into a brick fireplace. I don’t know how many concussions I’ve had. Got hit in the head by my cousin with a golf club, stitches. Tackled by brother, broken collarbone. I will say that all my childhood injuries well prepared me for my adult recreation. I’ve climbed, snowboarded, and mountain biked for years and have never been hurt. I’m not good at adult life, but I know how to not get hurt.”

MooKids commented, “My son is about to turn two. I am sure I will have to yell, ‘[Son], get off the roof!’”

stinkinwilly commented:

“My two brothers wrapped Styrofoam around their heads, stood at opposite ends of our long hall, and ran at each other, head-first, as fast as they could.

“I suppose the theory was that the Styrofoam would cushion the blow, but it did not. The Styrofoam was pushed upwards by the force of the air rushing past and they cracked their foreheads together.

“I thought it was great.”

TexasPhanka commented, “Girls are easier the first 10 years; the boys are easier the second 10 years.”

MNAK\_ joked, “We have two insane boys and a bunch of our friends have sweet little girls. I cannot wait to watch the hell they go through those 2nd 10 years.”

Jemima\_Snuggleduck took this more seriously: “Yeah, there is nothing quite like reaching the age range at which you start to see the reality of an extremely sexist society that you are growing up in, where the odds are stacked against women and you become subject to abuse and harassment from creeps.”

Cocoonraccoon commented, “I had a phase when I was a teenager, when I hated everything about being feminine, liking feminine things, music, etc. Because media and people around me made it seem like being feminine made you less of a person. Just think about — I don’t know, liking Justin Bieber. How embarrassing that was, because only little girls would like him. That shit is everywhere, and it sticks with you. Looking back, I feel so bad for my ‘not like other girls’ teenage self, because I didn’t realize there was nothing wrong with being feminine.”

WCC5D1F0E wrote:

“Can speak only for Dads.

“If it’s a boy, you got a wingman who will absolutely follow your lead and try to copy what you do all the time.

“If it’s a girl, your heart officially belongs to her now. Just submit and enjoy it.”

3) TrappedinMAGAworld wrote:

“Kids come home from day of school:

“Son — ask very specific questions about his day. Nothing he can just answer with a simple yes or no. You have to get creative. Think up new angle of questioning every day. You don’t want them to find loopholes.

“Daughter — ask her, ‘How was your day?’ An hour later you know what everyone wore to school, ate for lunch, the teacher’s children’s previous night’s activities, her homework assignments, the grades she got on yesterday’s assignments, anticipated weekend activities, the plans of all of her friends and their families, etc.”<sup>63</sup>

#### **64. “What’s The Best Way To Get Out Of A Situation Where You Were Caught Jerking Off To Porn?”**

1) Ed\_The\_Bloody wrote, “Don’t sweat it and move on. Everyone gets caught at some point.”

wildwildwaste wrote, “When I was 12 or 13, I was on my couch downstairs at past midnight, watching *Up All Night with Rhonda Shear*. The problem was my parents’ house had a giant picture window in the living room and they wouldn’t put an actual curtain up. I used a pillow to conceal the deed as much as I could, but when my older brother’s friends

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<sup>63</sup> Source: LittleRocketMan12, “Parents of reddit, what’s like having girls vs having boys?” Reddit. AskReddit. 8 September 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/pkoyqx/parents\\_of\\_reddit\\_whats\\_like\\_having\\_girls\\_vs/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/pkoyqx/parents_of_reddit_whats_like_having_girls_vs/)>.

came a knocking in the middle of my session, they were unprepared to witness a pre-pubescent [probably pubescent] wank in the middle of orgasmic bliss. It took a month for them to move on to other jokes.

2) SuggestionWrong504 commented, “I remember that very day. There I was, going hell for leather on my bed and I heard my mum: ‘What are you doing!’ That was over 30 years ago, and it’s never been mentioned since, thank god!”

3) Enamemeneananamemes commented, “My mom found my dildos once. That was awkward.”

Enamemeneananamemes added, “She threw them away.”

also added, “She said they were ‘bad for my soul,’ and that she would do the same thing to them as if I had drugs.”

bulabulablue commented, “Question is, did she really throw them away. - - Or stash them.”

4) LittleBitWarm wrote, “Back in the day a group of my friends and I walked in on another friend who appeared to be in the act. Turns out he was ‘playing air guitar.’ So that’s probably what I would do, play air guitar.”

IlBolio wrote, “Just continue. If you keep going, you are no longer the person who got caught, the other person is the person who kept watching.”<sup>64</sup>

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<sup>64</sup> Source: Top-Train-8890 wrote, “What’s the best way to get out of a situation where you were caught jerking off to porn?” Reddit. AskReddit. 12 September 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/pmtva0/whats\\_the\\_best\\_way\\_to\\_get\\_out\\_of\\_a\\_situation/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/pmtva0/whats_the_best_way_to_get_out_of_a_situation/) >.

## 65. “(Other Than Sex) What Are Other Forms Of Intimacy You Experience With Your Significant Other?”

1) Accomplished\_Tower29 wrote:

“Our ‘date nights.’ He makes dinner and I sit at the counter, we’re having some drinks, jamming to some tunes, talking and laughing — it’s so fun!

“He works odd hours and we have two young kids, so going out can be tough. He’s also an amazing chef and truly makes better food at home compared to going out. Note: We do go out when we can logistically.

“One time, it was early fall and we stayed up all night without even realizing! He was smoking a brisket and suddenly I go, ‘Oh, my god, the sun is coming up.’ We laughed, then those two aforementioned children woke up. It was wild, but so worth it!”

2) hensbanex wrote, “He brushes and washes my hair. To me that’s peak intimacy.”

iltandsf commented, “I love that. I had an ex who would wash my hair a couple of times a week and brush it every night before bed. I loved it.”

3) Oishiio42 wrote, “When he jiggles my belly fat. I love it. He loves it. We both giggle. Then I do it to him and he tells me to fuck off.”

4) cupcakegensis wrote, “Dancing, he’s an incredible dancer, and when he pulls me out on the floor I feel so connected with him. He also knows all my ‘cues’: If I’m tired, or stir-crazy, sad, or hyper-fixating, he notices and takes action. It makes me feel so close to him.”

5) PettyInPink420 wrote, “Lightly rubbing my back to put me to sleep, showering together, hugs, dancing in the kitchen

with no music while I make dinner, quality time in the same room even if we're doing different activities. This is not all of them but some of my favorites.”

AppropriateManager33 commented, “Seems like I am watching the cutest and most romantic movie to be ever produced. The only difference is that the actors are not actually acting here. But this makes me realize how single and lonely I am and in need of someone like this in my life.”

6) aspoonfulofalli wrote:

“Honestly, conversations. I'm a sucker for 'let's hear each other's souls, look into each other's eyes and talk about stuff that really matters' while also loving witty cute banter where you just feel that magic as you giggle over silly stuff. Add in asking questions / being genuinely curious and I'm a goner. Gah.

“Also, slow, deep kisses. Gets me weak in the knees.”

7) farmgirlsrock wrote:

“We like to cuddle. We also like to move all the furniture in the living room and dance. We kiss a lot, hold hands.

“On my bad days, I like to hug. He normally hugs me tight until I say, 'Be free, my love,' then he knows he can let go and do whatever.

“When he has a bad day he puts me in his lap and I rub his head while he buries it in my neck.

“I went to school to be a massage therapist, and I give him massages all the time.

“He washes my hair.

“At night he normally pulls me on top of him and wraps his arms around me to sleep. He runs his fingers down my spine

until he falls asleep, too. I enjoy listening to his heartbeat until I fall asleep.”

8) azurathegirl wrote:

“He tells me about everything that happened in his day, he helps me put on my shoes and clothes, sometimes he gives me baths and we talk and laugh a lot about silly things, he gives me massages when I’ve had a rough day at school and work, he gives me kisses all over my face, he always offers to take me out, we participate in hobbies together, he always listens to me intently and he’s constantly giving me touches that show me that even when we’re busy he’s paying attention to me.

“He is the most attentive, loving, steady boyfriend I’ve ever had and every time we go out to bars together people tell us to never let each other go because we found a great person and it’s hard to find good people and make a match out of them.”

9) Dull\_Buy1805 wrote, “I sometimes like to draw my husband. I’m not a great artist at all, but maybe once every couple weeks or so I’ll ask him to come and pose for me so I can draw him. I love the act of drawing people, but I’m usually far too shy to actually show someone a drawing I did of them, but he always acts like it is a masterpiece and it makes me feel happy he likes my drawings of him.”

10) sillynamestuffhere wrote, “We will rabbit-hole things together. It’s the best.”

11) mothwhimsy wrote, “I also pretend to punch him very gently and go ‘punch, punch, punch!’ I don’t know why. It just makes me happy. Especially when he yells, ‘Noooooooooooo!’ and falls backwards dramatically.”

12) bakareshii wrote, “We play fight a lot. Usually when we’re in the kitchen cooking together, one of us will just

throw a jab out of nowhere and it's on. We tackle and toss each other onto the floor, all through fits of laughter and kisses. Been together over eight years and it never gets old!"<sup>65</sup>

**66. "Women, How Do People Treat You Or Your Kids Different If You Have Two Different Kids Of Different Races (E.g., One White Kid, One Mixed, Etc.)?"**

1) cupcakegenesis wrote, "My mom had what looked like one white kid and one Mexican kid. She got a lot of comments like, 'Did the printer run out of ink?' And 'So what color was the mail man? My brother and I are twins, so a lot of time she just told them he stole all my color in the womb. People would laugh and never mention it again. People at our school would sometimes think we were dating because we didn't look like siblings."

Wankeritis commented:

"My dad is a twin. He's pale and pasty. His twin sister is brown.

"My sister is so white her skin looks translucent while I am dark like my aunt.

"Genetics are weird."

2) QuiteSimplyJane wrote:

"I nannied for a couple about 15 years ago where both parents were mixed; the first kid came out looking English [this probably means Caucasian] and the second Nigerian.

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<sup>65</sup> Source: Adventurous\_Garbage6, "(Other than sex) what are other forms of intimacy you experience with your SO?" Reddit. AskWomen. 12 September 2021 <  
[https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/pn564y/other\\_than\\_sex\\_what\\_are\\_other\\_forms\\_of\\_intimacy/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/pn564y/other_than_sex_what_are_other_forms_of_intimacy/)>.



“Nobody believed they were full siblings, I remember a lot of comments about adoption especially as both parents were on the lighter side. It wasn’t really a negative thing when the kids were little, more a learning opportunity about weird and wacky genetics.

“However, I think as they got older the kids had very different experiences with racial profiling. We all have unconscious biases, and after they went to school I think the kids took those biases and unconsciously internalised them and created a self-fulfilling prophecy. Last I saw the kids they were about 13 and 10, about five years after I stopped being their nanny, and it was obvious that they were drawing their influences and shaping themselves according to stereotypical media portrayals of what they thought someone of their shade of skin should act, do and think. These two children are on very different paths, and it was sad to see the parents do absolutely nothing to widen their children’s horizons, combat these biases, and change how they saw themselves.”

3) farmgirlrock wrote:

“So I have twin girls who are mixed (eight months old) and a niece (age four) who is white.

“I keep my niece often (my brother and sister-in-law both work nights, I keep her W-F). There is a definite difference when people see me with all three versus just my girls or just my niece.

“With all three I get a lot of comments asking if I’m babysitting my daughter’s kids — they expect my niece to be my kid. Most of the time when I tell them which children are mine they stop talking to me or the whole conversation gets awkward.

“If I have just my girls, I get a lot of stares and rude comments. A lot of asking where / who their father is or if

he is still around. Just a lot of really rude and stupid comments.

“If I just have my niece, I rarely hear anything from anyone.”<sup>66</sup>

### **67. “If You Could Dress Your Partner, What Would You Choose To Have Them Wear?”**

1) LesbeonGirl wrote, “Suit and tie.”

2) Shallow-ishPuddle wrote, “Full goth look. I think he’d look great with some heavy eyeliner.”

Sempiternal\_Cicatrix wrote, “Am dating a goth. Can confirm it is a Look that I very much appreciate.”

kyridwen wrote, “Oh, I came into the comments to say jeans and a shirt with sleeves rolled up. Gonna amend that to *black* jeans and a *black* shirt with sleeves rolled up, plus goth boots and eyeliner.”

3) ghostgasisms wrote, “Nothing but tattoos. ;) Haha.”

4) cringeterminator wrote:

“Given the unusual circumstance of not having a partner at the moment, I’ll have binary-gender specific answers:

“Male: suit & tie all the time.’

“Female: opened shirt, tied toward the end on top of a tank top & jeans.”

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<sup>66</sup> Source: AnomomousUser2021, “Women how do people treat you or your kids different if you have 2 different kids of different races (eg. 1 white kid 1 mixed etc)?” Reddit. AskWomen. 13 September 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/pncr6i/women\\_how\\_do\\_people\\_treat\\_you\\_or\\_your\\_kids/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/pncr6i/women_how_do_people_treat_you_or_your_kids/) >.

5) aubor wrote, “I dress and undress my husband every day. His uniform: Timberlands [boots / shoes], Levi’s, a muted t-shirt, and a long-sleeved cotton shirt. This is because he works under the sun in the Caribbean. However, I chose this look almost 30 years ago and he refuses to give it up.”

6) TwinklyLite wrote, “My partner wants me to dress him every day. Haha. It’s really fun.”

7) robcoagent47 wrote, “His *Fallout Raider* cosplay.”

CormorantTribe commented, “Why didn’t I think of this?”<sup>67</sup>

### **68. “Ladies Who Are In A Relationship With A Significant Age Gap, When Do You Think ‘Oh, Right, They Are Much Older / Younger’?”**

Kitteh\_Kate wrote, “When we were planning our wedding (before deciding to basically elope), we wanted to make one of these stupid photo slideshows that start now and then go backwards in time, ending with us as babies — or *me* as baby, him as young teen and then nothing on my side for a minute and kids photos on his, just for the lols.”<sup>68</sup>

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<sup>67</sup> Source: HurryUnhapopy8108, “If you could dress your partner, what would you chose to have them wear?” Reddit. AskReddit. 12 September 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/pn44y0/if\\_you\\_could\\_dress\\_your\\_partner\\_what\\_would\\_you/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/pn44y0/if_you_could_dress_your_partner_what_would_you/) >.

<sup>68</sup> Source: name lesspotato, “Ladies who are in a relationship with a significant age gap, when do you think " oh right, they are much older/ younger"?” Reddit. AskWomen. 12 September 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/pn6rhk/ladies\\_who\\_are\\_in\\_a\\_relationship\\_with\\_a/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/pn6rhk/ladies_who_are_in_a_relationship_with_a/) >.

## 69. “What Is Something Shocking You Found Out About A Friend Or Family Member After They Died?”

1) The\_Mouse\_That\_Jumps wrote, “My great-grandfather had not, in fact, been eaten by a bear on Mt. Rainier. (He was a park ranger.) Instead, he’d been cheating on my great-grandmother and was summarily run out of town by her brothers. He moved to Alaska and nobody knew what had become of him until we located his grave, many decades later.”

xternalmusings commented:

“Can we just admire how awesome that cover story was though?”

“They were really like ‘We’ll just say the bears got him, if anyone asks.’ And legit stuck to the story.”

OneMillionDandelions commented, “The bears conveniently had no comment.”

Theonethatgotherway commented, “I really like that narrative. It’s poetic. I feel like it belongs in a Wes Anderson movie: *Eaten by Bears on Mt. Rainier.*”

2) MikeBSleepy wrote, “This isn’t shocking, more cute. My grandad was a farmer his whole life. Every animal loved him. We’d go to a new place and dogs would be coming straight to him, horses would cuddle with him. He just had a charm with them. When cleaning out his closet and digging in his pockets to make sure nothing of value was thrown in the wash, we found grains, bits of dried meats, dog treats, bits of old carrot (for the horses). Man’s been bribing animals with food all his life.”

3) campindan wrote, “We found a sex swing in my little Catholic grandma’s attic.”

ilovetacos92 commented:

“When my very religious grandfather (mother’s side) passed away, my older brother found a bong hidden in his underwear drawer. (Ok, way to let loose, grandpa.)

“As we were further cleaning out his house, my mother and I found several fake id’s under different aliases, passports, etc., which finally led us to his ‘love children’ whose lives he was not a part of ... but he did financially support at least THREE other secret families!

“What a time to be alive ... I can’t support one family, on one income.

“He left us nothing but debt and Marlboro memorabilia.”

4) AjaxkidRN wrote:

“My grandma and grandpa had six kids. Turns out, only my mom and one uncle belonged to Grandpa. Grandma was having a long-term affair with some guy for years. No wonder Grandma was nervous all the time. She certainly carried a guilty burden.

“Ancestry DNA: blowing people’s minds daily.”

AjaxkidRN added:

“One aunt is mentally unstable and was never told. One aunt is being very dramatic about it. The remaining aunt and uncle just decided that there’s nothing to be done and nothing changes — my grandpa was their dad no matter what, even if he’s not bio. The other guy was just a stranger. Grandma messed up, but she was a loving mom.

“My mom felt something was hinky since she was a teenager so she wasn’t surprised. She always insisted Grandma had a darker side. Her brother who actually was my grandpa’s kid, too, well, I don’t know how he felt about it. He’s since passed.

“We’ve actually made a lot of jokes about it, though. If you don’t laugh, you cry.”

5) PapaayaMango2320 wrote, “I found out my boyfriend cheated on me after he died. The only reason I found out is because the girl was bragging on Facebook about how she was the last person who got to taste his junk. I called her a liar and she posted pics for proof. Shocked me for sure.”

Note by David Bruce: I’m pretty sure the first sentence should be: “After he died, I found out my boyfriend cheated on me.”

6) Adddicus wrote:

“My Uncle Jack was a quiet mild-mannered man, with a good sense of humor. He looked like a slightly shorter, slightly slimmer Burl Ives. He was a successful psychiatrist, highly respected in his field.

“Turns out he was also an OSS Agent during WW2. He never told anyone anything about what he did in the war. His two sons, an attorney and an Army Ranger, both asked him about it and he wouldn’t tell them a word.”

pseudoart commented, “For others who would need to google it: The Office of Strategic Services (OSS) was a wartime intelligence agency of the United States during World War II, and a predecessor to the Department of State’s Bureau of Intelligence and Research, and the independent Central Intelligence Agency.”

Notthesharkfromjaws wrote, “Your uncle Jack literally did the one job that nobody wanted, but we all needed. Fuck that terrifying job! Had a friend who was a Navy Seal for 11+ years. He never talked about any of it. He had a very mysterious injury from serving where his left arm became more paralyzed over time. Anytime you brought it up, he

would just go silent for three or four days. They probably did us favors not telling us.”

MarkusRuleTheGym commented, “My uncle, ex-German special forces who was with some Seals in the Middle East, just says when you start asking specific questions where he would have to go into detail, ‘You don’t want to know,’ and that’s it.”

7) Phiklander\_Chase wrote, “A lot of these are truly upsetting, but I have a cool shocking story! I knew my grandfather was in the armed forces in the early 60s, but I DIDN’T know that one time Martin Luther King visited (no fuckin clue why he visited an army base in the middle of the civil rights movement but whatever), and my grandfather was the only white guy on the Alabama base who greeted him and shook his hand, and who wasn’t a general or something that had to. When I heard this story, I was like no fucking way but there’s a PHOTOGRAPH. Grandpa shaking hands with MLK. Amazing, wish he or someone had told me that when he was still alive.”

8) GreenOnionCrusader wrote, “Great-grandma lived in a boarding house while great-grandpa was a traveling salesman. There was a nicely dressed man who would come through on business like clockwork. He thought four-year-old grandma was adorable and would watch her for great-grandma if she needed to run to the store. He suddenly stopped coming around and a few weeks later great-grandma saw his picture in the paper. Turns out, she had been letting Pretty Boy Floyd babysit her kid.”

9) trashpanda4811 wrote, “I met all four of my mom’s boyfriends at her funeral. It was a surprise to them and myself.”

10) Maleficent\_Life\_8352 wrote:

“Created a throwaway for this.

When I was 16, my mother and I were living in poverty. The lease on our home was coming up and wasn't going to be renewed. The new landlords wanted to make some desperately needed repairs on the house, as it had never once passed a single inspection from the day we moved in. We had nowhere else to go.

“Out of the blue, my mother's uncle (my great-uncle) showed up and offered to let us come live with him. He'd been my mother's favorite uncle when she was growing up, but they'd lost touch before I was even born. It turns out, he lived only a few short hours away and was in need of some live-in help.

“His health was bad and deteriorating. My mother took care of him, driving him to doctor's appointments, helping him after surgeries, etc. For years, she did this and in return he took care of not only her but me and even some friends of mine. He and my mother were the kindest, most generous souls I'd ever met, and for the longest time, I told everyone he was like the father I never had.

“He died right after Christmas some 14 years later (within a week of my 30th birthday, as it happened). He went into the hospital on my birthday, and less than a week later he was gone. It was one surgery too many, and he didn't have the strength to pull through.

“I stayed with my mother for as long as I could, trying to help her figure out what her next steps would be. He'd had a will — leaving her everything. His house, his bank accounts, all of it. But the will was gone. No one knew where it went. We searched high and low, but never found it.

“What I did find, however, was a marriage certificate. My mother was married to her uncle and had been for over a decade.



“You see, he went into the hospital for surgery one day, and in the process, the doctors realized he’d need a second surgery. Instead of keeping him under, they had to let him come out of it and become coherent enough to consent to the second surgery. As his niece, my mother didn’t have a say in that.

“Why not simply make her power of attorney?”

“He had amazing health insurance and retirement. By becoming his wife, she was able to be put on his health insurance. She was getting older (they were roughly a decade apart in age) and needed healthcare, dental, and vision. She was also the beneficiary of his life insurance after his death, as well as his social security and veteran’s benefits, thus ensuring that she was taken care of long after he passed.

“I was never able to call him my step-father in life, because I never knew. My mother was always afraid I wouldn’t understand or that I’d judge. Their relationship wasn’t physical. My mother is a CSA [Child Sexual Assault] survivor and is repulsed by sex, and his health was too poor and his medications too severe for him to be able to do anything of the sort.

“I understand why they didn’t tell me, because I hesitate to tell other people. It’s not a dark secret or anything I’m ashamed of because I know the nature of their relationship wasn’t like that. But it’s definitely something that requires explanation and it’s hard to tell how someone’s going to take it.”<sup>69</sup>

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<sup>69</sup> Source: inthe801, “What is something shocking you found out about a friend or family member after they died?” Reddit. AskReddit. 13 September 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/pnsd2c/what\\_is\\_something\\_shocking\\_you\\_found\\_out\\_about\\_a/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/pnsd2c/what_is_something_shocking_you_found_out_about_a/) >.

## 70. “What Is The Creepiest Thing A Child Has Ever Asked You?”

1) -Words-Words-Words wrote:

“My daughter at four: ‘We should play *Frozen*, but only the part where the parents die.’

“And not really creepy, but when my kids were little, I had to stop them from referring to other people as ‘the humans.’”

Wannabebunny wrote, “My daughter did that. She’d ask to go to the park to play with the other humans. Unsurprisingly, she’s autistic.”

mike117 commented, “No, no, your kids have a point. From now on I’ll be referring to all strangers as ‘the humans.’”

2) BrooklynLivesMatter wrote, “I like your skin. Can I have your skin?”

3) KittikatB wrote, “Do you have no children because they’re all dead?”

4) ZenlessPopcornVendor wrote, “How do you want people to feel when you finally die?”

5) Back2Back wrote

“A girl standing next to me at the museum was fascinated with a collection of shrunken heads.

“She pointed to one that was particularly sinister looking and asked: ‘Would you like me to do that to you?’”

6) SweetPotatoGuy34 wrote:

“I was tucking in my two-year-old. He said, ‘Goodbye, Dad.’ I said, ‘No, we say good night.’ He said, ‘I know. But this time it’s goodbye.’

“Had to check on him a few times to make sure he was still there.”

7) BeautifulFix3607 wrote, “I wasn’t asked this directly, but I overheard this question being asked at my old elementary school I was volunteering at. I heard a kid ask, ‘How do you murder a dead body?’”<sup>70</sup>

### **71. “What Is Your ‘They Didn’t Know I Spoke Their Language’ Moment?”**

More\_Rise wrote, “I had a hobby as a kid to learn just the swear words in other languages. I liked giving death glares to strangers who would say something mean or insulting and watch them get all flustered at this little blonde girl who didn’t actually have any functional knowledge for the languages they spoke.”<sup>71</sup>

### **72. What’s Your ‘Dodged A Bullet’ Story?”**

bunnyisarider wrote:

“I was 17, and a cute boy at a bookstore asked me out. He said he was 19 and offered to take me to the movies that weekend. I met him there and although he had dressed nicely and made an effort he had really strange energy, but at the time I was more prone to brush such things off. In the movie theater he kept trying to put his tongue down my throat and I was torn because I did like him but he was going way too

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<sup>70</sup> Source: No\_Significance\_7864 wrote, “What is the creepiest thing a child has ever asked you?” Reddit. AskReddit. 14 September 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/po0uam/what\\_is\\_the\\_creepiest\\_thing\\_a\\_child\\_has\\_ever/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/po0uam/what_is_the_creepiest_thing_a_child_has_ever/) >.

<sup>71</sup> Source: Yehoshua\_Hasufel, “What is your ‘They didn’t know I spoke their language’ moment?” Reddit. AskReddit. 14 September 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/po1zjs/what\\_is\\_your\\_hey\\_didnt\\_know\\_i\\_spoke\\_their/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/po1zjs/what_is_your_hey_didnt_know_i_spoke_their/) >.

fast. He excused himself to the restroom and was gone for 30 minutes, I thought he'd walked out because I wouldn't let him grope me. I figured whatever, guess he was a bitter jerk. Then he returned and said he'd walked to a grocery store to shoplift some gum? His breath was not the problem, lol, and maybe it was a hint to me but at that point I wasn't into kissing him anymore.

“We went outside. It was dark and the theater was in an empty outdoor shopping mall. He asked if I wanted to go for a walk. I said no, I should go. He asked if he could wait in my car because it was cold and he was getting picked up soon. At this point I experienced something I haven't felt before or since, even when getting followed home by a stranger. It was like my back-brain took over my body and I wasn't in charge anymore. It said, ‘Make him think you like him or you're going to die.’

“We got in my car and I kissed him. The feeling was so strange, it was like I was outside myself. I convincingly kissed him as if I had had a great time on this date. I told him how handsome he was and how much I wanted to do this again. After 20 minutes he got out of the car after getting my number and left. I went home. He called me 25 times in the next two days and got scarier with each one I didn't pick up. Eventually he stopped; luckily he didn't know my address. I learned he was going around picking up other high school girls at that same bookstore.

“A year later I googled him and discovered he had been convicted of the brutal rape of a girl in a nearby state and that he was in his late 20s.”

malaprop5 wrote:

“There's this true crime podcast I really like (sinisterhood) and the hosts have talked about how researchers theorize that there's a hormone the body secretes right before they do

something evil and horrifying, and other humans can sense it and that's what can preserve them in a dangerous situation. So when you said your 'back brain took over,' it reminded me of this phenomenon!

"Glad you got out!"

Lilliputian0513 commented, "That feeling you got! That's the best description I've seen of it. I was sexually assaulted by a family member and I didn't fight back. I was blamed for this — but I got that same feeling. This is also the feeling I got as a kid when my dad's abuse escalated past a certain point."

bunnyisarider responded:

"It's been proven now that **fight** or **flight** are not the only instincts in the face of danger. Sometimes your body picks **freeze** or **fawn**, to placate the person and minimize their anger. It's not your fault and I'm sorry you were blamed. Your body was doing the best it could to keep you alive.

"*The Gift of Fear* by Gavin de Becker is about situations like this and, weirdly, has helped me be less anxious about it happening to me again. Maybe it would be useful to you as well."<sup>72</sup>

### **73. "[SERIOUS] Nurses Of Reddit, What Are Some Of The Most Memorable Death Bed Confessions You've Had A Patient Give?"**

1) Careful\_Example wrote, "Had an elderly woman who had gone downhill and was on her death bed for about a week. She kept asking me to read the Bible to her and as soon as I

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<sup>72</sup> Source: Kavyeahh, "What's your 'dodged a bullet' story?" Reddit. AskReddit. 14 September 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/po3fkv/whats\\_your\\_dodged\\_a\\_bullet\\_story/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/po3fkv/whats_your_dodged_a_bullet_story/)>.

would start she would scream that he was coming to get her that he was waiting right behind me. Very unnerving at 3am. Finally I asked her who was coming to get her and she replied with ‘the devil’s coming for me because I let my husband rape our kids and did nothing.’”

CarefulExample added, “She had always been somewhat grumpy and I had just assumed it was because her family never visited but after hearing that I did not blame them one bit.”

domnny commented, “See, the devil really isn’t a bad guy.”

Daddyshirt commented, “I’ve been a nurse for six years. A year or two before I started, my floor housed a convicted child rapist and murderer, sent to us from prison, dying of cancer. One of my coworkers told me about how the patient described his child victims hovering outside the windows waiting for him to die so they could drag him to hell. We were on the tenth floor at that time. I asked my coworker if he thought the children were hallucinations. He’s one of the smartest, most perceptive people I know. He said he thought there was a good chance that what that patient saw was real.”

2) Practical\_Lab\_Data wrote, “Old man who was the same ethnicity as my girlfriend. (She did home care before becoming a nurse.) When he was a boy in his home country, his eldest brother wasn’t able to impregnate his wife because he was impotent after surviving an accidental electrocution. Wife demanded a child so he got his younger brother to impregnate her. He was 13 at the time. Went on to get her pregnant with two more kids before moving to America. He was crying because none of his family back home really cared about him even though he was dying; they just wanted him to keep sending money.”

Separate\_Rip\_8762 wrote, “Similar thing happened to me, my older brother went to prison for selling heroin in 2011,

when he came out he had converted to Islam. He then saved up money to have a circumcision that ended up going wrong and the guy who did it wasn't a real doctor. My brother had to have several more surgeries from real doctors, but he ended up going completely impotent and he asked me to do the same thing with his wife. I thought this was fucking gross and I refused and we haven't spoken in years."

bob237189 commented, "This is actually a thing in the Old Testament of the Bible. If a man dies without children, his brother is to impregnate the widow and the community would treat the kids as if they were the dead man's. Google Deuteronomy 25."

2) hey\_now111 wrote:

"Kind of similar to what the question asks, I suppose. I'm a scrub nurse. My job is to assist the surgeon during surgeries. I was preparing an elderly patient for a pretty high-risk surgery. There was a good chance he was going to be fine but there was also a decent chance things were going to go south. He knew this.

"While the CRNA [Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist] is doing her thing getting the anesthesia ready I'm standing next to him going over his chart and signed releases and he says to me, 'I need you to tell my wife I'm sorry for all the times I raised my voice at her. There weren't many times. But right now I wish there weren't any.' That was the first time I ever got choked up at the bedside.

"Thank goodness for masks because it helped hide my expression. I so badly wanted to tell him everything was going to be okay but no one knew if it was going to be. I said back to him, 'I'll do anything you need me to, but right now let's think about some happy memories before you go under.' I asked him to tell me about he and his wife's first date.

“Once he was under. I excused myself before scrubbing in to stop myself from crying.

“He made it through surgery and his wife was waiting for him after he was transferred from the PACU [Post Anesthesia Care Unit].”

hey\_now111 added, “This happened months ago, but I still get choked up thinking about it and thinking about their relationship. His wife described it as Carl and Ellie from *Up*.”

3) rabbidbunnyjd wrote, “I had a client (90-year-old male) confess to his wife and children that while he was away on business, he obtained another family. He lived another two years.”

Damascus\_Red12 commented, “Sooo like, what happened after the confession?”

rabbidbunnyjd responded, “Wife and children kinda cast him off. He thought he was dying immediately of cancer, he was a multimillionaire, he tried to spend as much as he could out of spite so his children wouldn’t inherit any of it.”

4) Hobie642 wrote, “One of the most challenging moments I had with a patient who was passing was a woman in her 80’s with advanced dementia and trying to recover from a severe bed sore that had gone septic (from a nursing home with a bad reputation). She often confused me with her second husband; her daughter told me I looked a lot like him. The patient would often talk about ‘our’ sexual exploits including swinging and partner swapping as well as very wild ‘adventures.’ I had given up on trying to tell her I was not her husband because I just confused her and upset her so I learned to just play along. She talked to me often about ‘our’ children and other family and many non-sexual adventures they had. It made her happy to talk about it and often left me with a smile.”



5) Murka-Liurka wrote:

“My husband was giving an elderly patient a bath. He noticed a tattoo on his forearm and asked if it was what he thought it was.

“The patient was an Auschwitz survivor and never spoke of his experiences before that day. He had been part of the Polish resistance and came to the U.K. after the war.

“The bath ended up lasting several hours with my husband topping up the water to keep it warm. The patient’s family thanked him later; he had been carrying a weight for half a century and it had finally been lifted.”

Ghost\_of\_aBlack\_Cat wrote:

“I’ve worked in healthcare since 1985. There used to be quite a few Holocaust survivors in the hospitals and nursing homes.

“They would hoard food and we would find it in the shoes in their closets, under the mattresses, inside the pillowcases, etc. Rotten or not, they would try to eat it. And it was so heartbreaking.

“We once had one poor old soul with Alzheimer’s in our hospital’s Rehab wing, and she would crawl over the end of her bed at night and wander into the other patients’ rooms. She would stand at the end of their beds and scream at them in German. She would scare the Hell out of them.

“Her son told us that she was having hallucinations about the Nazi SS brutalizing her instead of her younger sister. “Apparently, at age 15, she had sacrificed herself in order to save her sister from gang rape.

“My Great-Uncle actually went AWOL (Absent Without Leave) during WW II and he somehow turned up at my Grandmother’s house. She was his sister.

“She took him back to the Army, and they gave him a choice: Either be sentenced to time in the Brig (military jail) or become a Medic. He chose to become a Medic, and he spent the rest of his military career cleaning up several concentration camps.

“He never spoke of it, but he did show me a large gold signet ring that he had apparently cut off the finger of a frozen German soldier in the Black Forest.”

6) tangcameo wrote:

“My dad loves small-town auctions and over the years he collected all those boxes of stuff that would go for the lowest [?] bid. He amassed quite a collection, filling the garage and a workshop out back. He always promised Mom he’d sell it all someday in some big garage sale or auction of his own.

“Then one day my mom’s cancer returned and the doctors told us this time it wasn’t a fair fight. Two weeks before she passed, I was sitting with her in the hospital. We’d run out of things to say. She looked up at the ceiling, trying to ignore the pain, and said, ‘Thank god at least I won’t have to deal with your dad’s stuff.’

“My mom and I burst out laughing.

“Don’t tell my Dad.”

7) Fawun87 wrote, “My mother is the nurse, not me, but she doesn’t have Reddit. She works in end-of-life care and she tells me often that people wish they hadn’t worked such long hours and had spent more time with their family and friends instead.”

123DownByTheRiver wrote, “I’m a hospice nurse and I hear both sides of the story. People who work a lot wish they had worked less. People who didn’t make enough money wish they had worked and saved more for their families. Most

people wish they had done something different in life than what they did. Even in death the grass is greener on the other side.”

8) Responsible\_Cloud\_92 wrote:

“This was a couple years back, when I was doing a nightshift rotation. Maybe not quite the confession you were thinking, but it still breaks my heart to this day.

“Had a patient one night, perfectly fine. Came back the next night and found out they had a massive stroke mid-morning. Family had decided against surgery due to age factors and other things. Wife was telling me they had a good life together, about 40-50 years of being married. Kept vigil at the bedside all night, holding their hand. All the kids and grandkids were there, too. I told them although patient was unconscious, they could still hear so encouraged the family to keep talking to them, tell them everything they want to say before it’s too late.

“Around 4am, I could tell the patient was close to the end (their breathing changes), and the wife asked me if it was time. I gave her an honest answer and she became hysterical, clutching the patient’s hand. She kept crying that she wasn’t ready to say goodbye, she had so many other plans for them to live out. That she didn’t want them to die, she wanted them continue living. She wished she hadn’t withdrawn treatment, so they could have more time together. Patient passed away 15 minutes later.

“It’s been years, but that still stands out to me as one of the most heartbreaking deathbed moments.”

Responsible\_Cloud\_92 added:

“I could feel her pain. She kept pouring her heart out to the patient and I left the room so she could have some privacy. I

don't know what else she said, but I'm sure she said everything she wanted to say.

“Most of my patients on their deathbeds are already drugged up to help with their pain so mostly unconscious / incoherent. Many of them, when still lucid, will ask me / medical team to just end their suffering or reminisce on their lives before they became ill.”

adamtuliper commented, “My dad was on amazing amounts of pain meds his last few days and he was completely out — unconscious. I said, ‘I love you, Dad,’ standing over him and he replied, ‘I know.’ Tearing up now thinking about this. It was so unexpected but great at the same time.”

Alexexy commented:

“My dad had a severe stroke last year and the doctor told us that he would never regain consciousness. My parents had a private conversation with each other saying that if they were rendered catatonic with no hope of recovery, they wouldn't want their life to be artificially extended.

“My dad was kept on the ventilator for a total of 2.5 weeks. My mom knew what decision she had to make, but she managed out it off for an additional 3-4 days. She knew what to do but kept wanting to hold onto my dad. Watching my dad physically worsen over time was utterly heart wrenching and in the end, we didn't want him to suffer any more despite having difficulty letting go.

“Your story reminded me of when we finally took my dad off the ventilator and how we held his hands and talked to him during his last moments.

“The thing about death is that there will never be a time when you feel that a person has lived enough.”

HotIronCakes commented:

“We went through something very similar but with my mom. My dad was deep in denial, and my mom was on life support for almost two weeks. He’d talk about how he hoped she’d be home for the holidays, just complete fantasy. We were lucky that my dad was deeply religious and the hospital chaplain did an amazing job of addressing his fears and pointing out that God hadn’t intended medicine to leave someone catatonic until they die of an infection or heart attack.

“My dad, when he was dying, said the same thing. I can still hear his rasp in my mind: ‘It’s not enough time. It’s never enough time.’ You always wish you could have a year or 1,000 more with those you love.”

GreenLurka commented:

“Very sad.

“But my grandad was done, he’d finished. You get so old that your body doesn’t let you do what you love anymore, and most or all of your friends are dead. Even food starts to lose its taste. Every hobby he loved was stolen from him by age; all he had left was his dog and his family. His dog was pretty old and while he loved his family he was just done.

“He would have stuck around longer if he hadn’t gotten so sick, but he was tired of trying so hard just to feel like crap. We all said goodbye; he pretty much starved to death but was high as a kite on morphine.

“He did so much when he was alive. Painted, sung, wrote, directed plays, travelled the world, learned to play every instrument he could get his hands on, fell in love, helped rehabilitate nature, helped save an endangered species, had a nice family, had a good career, built a home. He watched computers come into existence and learned how to program music on them, and he loved playing games on them, too. And when he couldn’t do those things anymore, he said

goodbye and that was that. Went through his things when he died, he wrote some filthy poetry accompanied by some hilarious sketches. If I'm 1/10 the man he was, I will die happy."

7) BigAmen wrote:

"My mother is a hospice nurse.

"She says sadly, many people's family or relatives saw her patients as burdens and either didn't take warning signs of death seriously or cared to be there in the long hours of the night to see them go to the other side. So, many of her patients are simply alone as they pass, except for my mother, who is usually there holding their hand and doing her best to comfort them as they quickly approach last moments. Many times they don't have life-changing last words, but they are really just listening or hoping for 'permission' per se to let go. Whether they are calling out gently for their late spouse, mother, etc., she does her best to relay loving messages to them and to let them know it's okay and they are loved. So in a way, I think the last words of the nurses around these people, especially elderly hospice patients, carry a similar significance.

"To those who work with people of all kinds as they pass, just know your line of work matters.

"Edit: This in no way was meant to speak negatively to those who tried to visit their loved ones or simply weren't able to before they passed. I think it's easy to tell those with negative intentions versus those with good ones in these type of situations."

ParisaDelara wrote, "Your mother is a saint. I was with my dad when he passed. His last word was 'Mom?' Like he was asking for her. I don't think I could handle seeing that over and over again with multiple people."

morrowindnostalgia commented:

“I’m a nurse in elderly care, and even when they’re not dying, it’s tragic.

“I have a patient who constantly asks me where his wife is. She died a long time ago. He worries about her and why she didn’t come home after dinner or that it shouldn’t take her this long to do groceries.

“I smile and joke and play along; there’s no use telling him the truth.”

bk1285 wrote, “I’m not a nurse, but I believe that people do times wait for permission to go. My aunt was in a nursing home and had brain cancer, we got the call that things were probably going to end that night, we all rushed up to the home and sat there. My dad, who was the youngest and the only other surviving member of the family, sat beside her and he told her it was okay to go, that he would be okay and it was time for her to go be with the rest of the family, within minutes she was gone. I think she needed to hear my dad say he was going to be okay.”

shl00m commented:

“I lost my mother last year. I was there like all the time and stayed until the nurses kicked me out (but came back as soon as I had some sleep) but as I was usually living in another city I had to go back once in a while to take care of my kids (ex-girlfriend did her best to handle it alone but also it gave me some moments to refill my inner battery). One day I got back to my place and the next morning I get ‘the call.’ I feel in pain for not being there as she passed even though everyone (my siblings, the nurses and the docs) told me that I did everything I could and that it is ‘normal’ that people die when there’s no one around as they finally can let go.

“One thing I did a week before she passed: She was in a very clear state at that moment so I asked her if she wants to leave messages behind for her kids (thanks to Covid we’ve been allowed to be there one at a time) and her grandkids. So I recorded last messages for everyone. They were all grateful that I did (especially my mom) and like this I kept an immortal memory / message for everyone. Only thing I totally forgot at that time is that I haven’t made one with her for me, but the memories of her are all I need.

“Edit: My initial point I was trying to make is that I still am / was grateful that she had a nurse by her side who took the time (not very common nowadays) and held her hand until she could finally go on her last trip.”

8) xkieksterx wrote:

“I’m an intern and I work with the elderly at a day centre. A 90-something-year-old man (who was very loved by everyone) was committing euthanasia (which is legal in the Netherlands) that afternoon. He still wanted to come to us. All the nurses and social workers were pretty emotional for his last day. It can be weird to talk to someone in the morning, knowing they will end their lives that afternoon.

“I got to go on a walk with him. I was pushing his wheelchair and we just talked about life. That one hour he taught me so so so much about life. He told all about his trauma from WW2, about how it affected him and about how he overcame it. He never told anyone, not even his wife, about everything that happened. He gave me so many life lessons that day, and I will always be thankful for that.”

xkieksterx added some information about the life lessons:

“It was mostly about ‘just’ enjoying life. Enjoying a cup of tea by yourself, just doing nothing. Taking the time to heal without any interruptions from others. He also talked about his ‘6 rule,’ which really stuck with me.



“Don’t worry more than 6 minutes about something that won’t be important to you in 6 hours. Don’t worry more than 6 hours about something that won’t be relevant in 6 days. Don’t worry more than 6 days about something that won’t be relevant in 6 weeks. Don’t worry more than 6 weeks over something that won’t be relevant or important to you in 6 months. Don’t worry more than 6 months over something that won’t be relevant or important to you in 6 years.”

9) RunsWithApes wrote:

“Doctor here — working in the deep south I’ve heard a lot of patients regret disowning their gay / lesbian children and the relationship they could’ve had. Unfortunately, rigid religious / political dogma tears apart more families than most people realize.

“Life is short. Accept people, especially the ones you love, for who they are and not who you would like them to be. That’s always been the takeaway lesson I got from hearing these stories.”

10) Hobie642 wrote:

“I’m an RN, male and white, and worked with many elderly. I had one 90+ year-old male talk about how he had been a part of the KKK in his youth and how ashamed he was of taking part in several lynchings and other assaults on blacks and even some white Catholics. He’d had several CNA’s [Certified Nursing Assistants] and Patient Care techs who were either black or Hispanic and he was always so polite and sometimes even loving towards them. I could tell how deeply his past haunted him. He asked me not to share this information with any of the staff. The last days before he became too weak to speak anymore he asked one of the Black RN’s I worked with if she forgave him. She did not know what he was asking forgiveness for, but she told him

she did and helped him ‘get right with Jesus.’ He passed peacefully a couple days later.

“I also had a woman who was 100+ tells me she had been badly abused by her first husband but was stuck in the marriage because of the culture at that time. He’d been thrown from a horse (that he’d also been very cruel to) and kicked several times. She ignored his cries for help and let him die. She said she had never told anyone about it, but she felt guilty for it for over 80 years and could still hear him screaming for help. We talked about it a long time. I was working night shift and it gave me a chance to spend extra time with some patients. My experience working with people with PTSD helped me to help her to see that she was acting to protect herself and others from him and responding from a place of natural fear. Before she passed, she told me I had helped her find peace with it.

“My faith and my own life experience have taught me that people do things in the moment because it is often what they believe they have to do and not to judge them, but to help them find peace within themselves.”

Adler4290 commented:

“I had a friend in school who lived alone with his abusive dad who beat him all the time. One day the dad had a stroke or something and also yelled for help and my friend came running because of the yelling but then ... froze and just stood there remembering all the beatings and the hate ... and let his dad suffer until he passed out.

“Then he waited 15 minutes and called 911 here and his dad was way dead when the ambulance came.”

11) themolestedsliver wrote:

“Jesus fucking Christ. I came to this thread for poignant wisdom gleaned by people on their dying moments.

“Yet what I got was fucking nightmare fuel of those being about to die seeing devils about to drag them to hell.”

librarianlurker commented, “Make peace with your demons. For they are still waiting, and they are patient.”

12) asperges\_me\_domine wrote:

“I recently cared for a woman who had multiple acute strokes in a short amount of time. A week before she had been independent, riding her horse every day, still teaching part-time at the local school, despite being in her 80s.

“By the time she got to me, she was completely nonverbal, incontinent, and unable to feed herself. I had a feeling that she was neurologically intact enough to understand what was going on, so I talked to her as much as I could when I was in the room. Talked to her about her daughters who had called every day, her husband (who hadn’t called, but I left that part out), the weather, her horses, her students who had sent a card. On the last day of my workweek, her daughter from out of state had finally found a flight up. They sat in silence and held hands for hours. Visiting hours ended right at shift change, so I walked in to give report as the daughter was saying goodbye. The patient then spoke what I knew were going to be her last words, ‘I’ll always be looking after you.’ And pointed to her daughter, and then at me, and then she fell asleep. Two days later when I came back to work, I was informed she had passed away in the night.”

13) BigODetroit wrote, “Just the people who die alone. The next of kin is usually a distant niece or nephew. I hated those calls because I would inform them of the passing and they would just say, ‘Ok, thank you.’ And hang up.”

14) Separate\_Rip\_8762 wrote, “My father told me and my mother he had stolen my mother’s wedding jewelry a couple of years earlier and sold it to invest in stocks he thought was a sure thing. He lost all the money and everybody in the

family blamed my oldest brother because he had a bad gambling addiction and he had stolen from everyone multiple times before. We never told anyone about this; even 11 years later everyone still thinks it was my brother.”

ChildofMike commented, “That is awful. Seriously, go and apologize to your brother (if you can) and tell the truth for f— sake.”

Separate\_Rip\_8762 responded, “You know he’s actually stolen from me as well so I don’t think I will do that at this point.”

ChildofMike wrote:

“That adds some clarity to the situation. Honestly, in retrospect, who the Hell am I? I don’t know you. I don’t know him.

“Damn anonymity gets me all twisted up like I have room to talk. Dude, I’m positive that you’re right and that you did what is best for yourself and I apologize for rushing to judgment. I don’t want that to be who I am, not even one time and to a stranger.

“Please accept my apology.”

dilqnocho commented on this exchange, “That was ... strangely wholesome.”<sup>73</sup>

#### **74. “What Hill Did You Allow A Relationship To Die On?”**

1) huge\_canoes wrote, “He fucking ate my leftovers after I explicitly asked him not to. I sat my boyfriend down at the

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<sup>73</sup> Source: alyssaoftheeast, “[SERIOUS] Nurses of Reddit, what are some of the most memorable death bed confessions you’ve had a patient give?” Reddit. AskReddit. 14 September 2021 < <https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/> >.

time and told him my uncle was making this dish that he hadn't made in years, I think since my grandfather had passed. It was for a family gathering that I was unable to attend due to work. I was really sad about it because family means everything to me and it had been a rough year. My uncle called me and told me he would wrap up a plate and send it to our apartment. I don't remember if my boyfriend was at the party and my uncle sent it with him (he is best friend of my cousin) or if my mom dropped it off. All I remember is getting home, greeting him and then going straight for the fridge. It was gone. All of it. He said he got hungry and there wasn't anything else to eat because I didn't go food shopping. So go to the grocery store yourself, it's literally down the street. No, he ate my food. I was livid and didn't speak to him for days. Shortly after I broke up with him, that being the main reason. It sounds stupid, but I will die on that damn hill a million times. My name is Inigo Montoya, you ate my Arroz Relleno, prepare to die."

2) sillynamestuffhere wrote:

"I had been dating a guy for a couple of months when he started to pressure me to have sex. I'm a rape survivor and had been very upfront about this from the start and clear on my boundaries. One night when he tried to pressure me, I told him he needed to stop trying to sexually coerce me. He then screamed, 'Why are you *punishing me* for what someone else did!'

"He actually viewed me not having sex as a way to punish men for my rape. I will absolutely respect my boundaries on this and die on that hill by myself every single time."

M\_1798 commented:

"Absolutely right to set your boundaries! And I am terribly sorry that you had to deal with all of that.

“I had a boyfriend back in high school who had college friends; they all gave him this idea that he should lose the V card before finishing high school and he was honest in letting me know. We were in 10th grade heading to 11 soon, and his parents gave him a box of condoms (and I still don’t know why, that was weird, like a BIG box).

“After months of trying to put the idea off, I had convinced myself to actually go through with it, but he broke up with me and started dating a friend of mine that I ‘didn’t have to worry about.’

“Turns out I was a lot more emotionally invested in the relationship than he was and I was miserable for a long time. Thank goodness I didn’t sleep with him because it would have been way worse!”

3) BJintheRV wrote, “Dated a guy [...] when I was very young. It took only one time when we were both just sitting on the couch and he asked me to get up and get him something. If I’m already up or getting up, no problem. But if we’re both in the same position and you want something, get it yourself.”

4) MidnightFireHuntress wrote:

“Dated a guy I thought was ‘the one.’ But when we moved in together in college he had a very violent side involving video games, he would smash keyboards and when he broke his monitor over *League of Legends* I decided to move out and break it off with him

“It’s funny because he was super nice and sweet but when he started playing video games he became crazy toxic and mean.”

5) Confetticandi wrote:

“He didn’t want to move. I did.

“There were other issues, of course, but that was one I was not willing to compromise on.”

6) InterestingCloud9 wrote:

“He was unemployed and wouldn’t apply to jobs he could realistically get, but he would spend days and weeks applying to jobs he had no chance of getting and then be devastated and fall into a spiral of depression and self-criticism when he inevitably didn’t get them. And I’m not saying that he wouldn’t get them in a nasty or judgmental way of ‘you’re unlikely to get your dream job, so give up your dreams and ambition.’ I mean he was applying for jobs he just didn’t have ANY chance of getting — like high-paid lawyer positions, business executive roles, or chartered accountancy. With no relevant qualifications or work experience AT ALL. But he wouldn’t get any other job in the meantime because anything else was ‘beneath’ him and not good enough.

“I had empathy for a long time, I’ve also been unemployed before and it’s honestly soul destroying, and I’ve worked jobs I’m way overqualified for and have no passion for and that’s also mentally awful. But at the end of the day, he wasn’t making any changes or being realistic about his options, and he was expecting his dad and me to just endlessly financially support him.”

UniversalCombustor commented:

“My ex-husband was similar, apart from the fact that he didn’t even apply to any jobs! I don’t know what I was thinking about when getting with him (I was 16 and finishing school, he was 19 and never worked a day in his life, he didn’t even finish high school and was living with his parents). Ugh, I thought that’s love and moved to his small room at his parents’ flat.

“He never even did any housework; all he did was read random tech news articles and play video games. Like I don’t have a problem with video games. I like them as well, but after moving I got into a university and I found an online job so I was studying and working, his parents were paying for our food and stuff so the money I made we spent on travelling somewhere once or twice a year. I wasn’t even able to buy myself anything because he was like ‘We should keep that for our travel; you can be okay with an old phone.’ But when he suddenly decided he wants a new \$4000 laptop he was like, ‘Well, okay, let’s not go travel this year. I want a laptop.’ I don’t even know what I was thinking and why I stayed with him for eight years. It took me two years to leave him as well and even after divorce he kept stalking me. (Even though I returned to my home city, unfortunately he knew my address.) And he was like, ‘But we were living so peacefully and nicely! What’s wrong? What didn’t you like?’

“Anyways, that’s the past now and now I can buy myself whatever I want for the money I earn and no one gets to tell me what to save and what to buy so I bought myself a pretty cool phone and a laptop and I enjoy the games I wanna play. (He sometimes made me play the game he likes just because he didn’t wanna play them alone.) Now I’m just chilling in simple mobile ones like [King of Avalon](#) and enjoying the storyline.

“And yeah, now I know for sure what I don’t want my boyfriend to be like; gladly, my current boyfriend is nothing like that one.”

7) dezisauruswrex wrote, “Porn habit. Lots of porn & wanking all the time, but no sex for me. When I suggested that he stop the porn for a while so maybe he would want to



have actual sex with a person, it was a hard no. Bye, ex-husband who prefers pictures to people.”<sup>74</sup>

## 75. “How Do You Know What Size Condom Is Right For You?”

1) mighlor wrote:

“I guess I’m gonna give a serious answer because no one else did.

“Go to [www.mysize-condoms.com](http://www.mysize-condoms.com) and follow instructions. Once you know your diameter, it’s easy to find the right condoms. It’s always written on the package. (Not that package — it’s written on the package in your hand. I mean it’s written on the box.)

“I was wearing too small for too long. It works but it’s that much less pleasure.”

2) TinyConflict2323 wrote, “The Condomerie is a store in Amsterdam that specializes in all condom sizes. I used to work there, and we were measuring all condoms from all brands and translated them to our size system in order to make a fair comparison and give you perfect advice based on either measurements or what you’re wearing right now and how that condom fits you. They ship worldwide and are extremely helpful! [www.condomerie.com](http://www.condomerie.com)”

3) Ajsm1259 wrote, “Buy a bunch of different brands / sizes and try them out.”

Ajsm1259 added, “It’s the easiest way. You can use the measurement sites and everything, but that didn’t help me at

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<sup>74</sup> Source: BJintheRV, “What hill did you allow a relationship to die on?” Reddit. AskWomen. 15 September 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/pp52yj/what\\_hill\\_did\\_you\\_allow\\_a\\_relationship\\_to\\_die\\_on/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/pp52yj/what_hill_did_you_allow_a_relationship_to_die_on/) >.

all when I first started using condoms. Some felt too large, while others were just too tight. There's nothing like buying a bunch of them and trying out."<sup>75</sup>

## 76. "What Is The Lamest Thing You've Heard Someone Brag About?"

1) MickWounds wrote, "Men who think it's a flex that they've never changed their own child's nappy or looked after their own kids by themselves."

cleaning-meaning commented:

"As a nanny it's the lamest thing in the world. Some guy was flirting with me and when he found out I was a nanny he tried to use that as a flex.

"He bragged about how he changed one diaper for his twin toddlers. **One!** When I babysit twins, I'm changing dozens of diapers and this dude changed one and acted like he deserved Dad of the Year.

"With that being said, I do find guys good with kids attractive. Some guy was making funny faces at the child I nanny, just making her giggle so much she pooped herself. And I wanted to take my panties off for him right there."

MickWounds responded, "Maybe decades ago it was a flex because dealing with kids 'was a woman's job,' but these days only other douchebags are going to high-five you for being such a knob. It's part of being a parent and I wouldn't have it any other way even when I would spew sometimes

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<sup>75</sup> Source: TheUnmistakenFish, "How do you know what size condom is right for you?" Reddit. AskReddit. 17 September 2021 <  
[https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/ppxbhg/how\\_do\\_you\\_know\\_what\\_size\\_condom\\_is\\_right\\_for\\_you/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/ppxbhg/how_do_you_know_what_size_condom_is_right_for_you/)>.

because I don't handle those smells very well. My boys found it quite hilarious.”

2) Pinocchioswoodballs wrote:

“Recently there was a guy in [r/niceguys](#) or [r/justneckbeardthings](#) who first went into a rant why all women are whores and how they all just date tall assholes.

“After he realized that he is at the wrong spot for this incel garbage, he started to answer with pictures of his bank account randomly.

“He answered his own comments and attacked people because ‘AT LEAST I’M RICH!’ and when people told him that it’s even more pathetic that he is rich and a) has to brag about it and b) still can’t make a woman talk to him, he got even more mad and started to show people on how many money subs he is a member.

“It was so lame and so sad and so pathetic, that I will probably remember it for a LONG time.”

3) arte\_nm wrote:

“How much alcohol they can drink / weed they can smoke / drugs they can take in a short period of time.

“Wow. Bravo. Teenager-level flex on mature people.”

tricks\_23 wrote:

“I literally just spoke to a young lady who bragged that she drinks three bottles of wine per night.

“That isn’t an achievement — that’s a problem.”

4) CalmingVisionary wrote:

“Being good at *Dark Souls*. It’s one thing to express pride in beating the game’s various bosses, but quite another to treat it as a life achievement worth being a dick about.

“You know what’s harder than beating *Isshin* or *Orphan of Kos*? Getting a job and an education.”<sup>76</sup>

### **77. “What Are Things That Sound Like Compliments, But Are Actually Insults?”**

1) darting frogs wrote, “I wore a new dress to visit a friend and she said, ‘Wow! You look like you actually got dressed on purpose!’ It was hilarious rather than hurtful, though.”

2) breastlift2021 wrote, “One of my friends once posted a picture of me to Instagram and tagged it #bodypositive. Lmao.”

3) Thelazywitch wrote a compliment for weight loss:

“‘You’re so beautiful now!’

“‘Bitch, I was beautiful before. Now I’m just narrower.’”

4) lawjr3 wrote, “I can’t count how many times somebody told me how great I looked after losing 65lbs on chemo.”

5) RedOps\_3 wrote, “It’s a good thing you’re pretty.”

lion\_in\_the\_shadows commented, “In university, this was my friend-group’s go-to insult.”

RedOps\_3 responded, “One of my teachers in high school liked to tell me I need to marry someone rich as an insult. I thought it was kinda funny actually.”

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<sup>76</sup> Source: spicedpumpkins, “What is the lamest thing you’ve heard someone brag about?” Reddit. AskReddit. 17 September 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/ppwgxr/what\\_is\\_the\\_lamest\\_thing\\_youve\\_heard\\_someone\\_brag/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/ppwgxr/what_is_the_lamest_thing_youve_heard_someone_brag/)>.

6) leopoldisacat wrote:

“At least being plus-sized means you have big boobs!”

“My back and I both thank you for noticing.”

leopoldisacat added:

“tldr — boob fixation, it’s not just for men.

“It’s weird how women can think it’s okay to make comments about the size of another woman’s breasts and be like ‘It’s okay, we’re all girls here!’

“Like, no. You pointing out my tits and randomly talking about them is just as weird as anyone else doing it.

“For Christ’s sake I had to tell a woman who worked for me that it was not okay for her to talk about my boobs. I was her boss!”<sup>77</sup>

## 78. “What Instantly Makes A Girl Hot?”

1) andyumster wrote:

“Bedtime.

“All day my girlfriend will complain about being cold.

“The instant she is asleep I could fry an egg on her thighs.

“And she cuddles in relentlessly.

“Someone save me.”

hezied commented, “I dated a guy who could tell when I was getting sleepy before I could. I’d get too absorbed in

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<sup>77</sup> Source: rabbit33, “What are things that sound like compliments, but are actually insults?” Reddit. AskReddit. 17 September 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/pqd2cs/what\\_are\\_things\\_that\\_sound\\_like\\_compliments\\_but/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/pqd2cs/what_are_things_that_sound_like_compliments_but/) >.

whatever I was doing and not notice. But my ex would come over, lay a hand on me, nod to himself and go, 'Oh, you're heating up,' and start wrapping up whatever he was doing so we could go to sleep."

2) scrubbar wrote, "The scalding temperature they set the shower to."

ItsMeTK commented, "Walking into a bathroom after a woman showers is like a quick visit to the rainforest."

Sirduckerton commented:

"I like my shower in between warm and hot. When my wife and I shower together, I always get out first so she can crank the heat up. We call them her dragon showers.

"I'll get out and she will yell, 'Dragon time!' Lol."

mrnonamenobody commented, "When my girl gets out of the shower, you can literally see the steam coming off her body. I'm always amazed at how she hasn't boiled herself alive yet."

Elemen0py commented:

"Ninety percent of women in my experience:

"'My skin's been a little dry on my upper back and shoulders lately; it's weird.'

"*Sets shower to SUN.*"

dingleberrymustache commented, "Lol. My boyfriend tells me I bathe in Hell water."

Kamacalamari commented, "I must be a polar queen then; anything more than lukewarm makes me wanna pass out in the shower."

3) queenlesbian99 wrote, “When she’s genuinely kind and gives good hugs.”

MikeLynnTurtle wrote, “A really good, full-body, all-encompassing hug. Haven’t had one of those in too long [soooo long], but dang, I remember how they could make a bad day so much better.”

StreetIndependence62 wrote:

“I love hugs, but I also used to be terrible at hugs so people almost seemed to avoid hugging me since it was awkward.

“But then my friend taught me the right way to do it and I’m really glad she did! I hugged someone not that long ago and they said they liked the way I hug because I sink into you. It was honestly one of the best compliments ever for me. :)

“Edit: All righty! I got lots of people asking me to teach them my ways and I’d love to. :)

“So the first thing my friend told me was that my arms were going in the wrong place. Before, I always used to put my arms around the other person’s neck and kinda hang on them. (I cringe thinking about this now. Lol.) But the way she taught me to do it was, your arms go underneath the other person’s arms. Like not their hips / waist or their pits but between that area.

“Then (and I think this is what that person meant by ‘sinking in’), I sort of just relax my entire body, not to make myself 100% dead weight but enough that the other person can feel that I’m not tensed up. Like Playdoh.

“One other thing: Don’t be worried about accidentally crushing someone! Usually for me, if I’m worried about hugging or giving a handshake or high five too hard then I end up going the opposite way and doing it too soft. Unless you’re doing what people do in those vids where someone

wins a prize or something and they GRAB the person who won and shake them back and forth, you probably aren't gonna hurt them. Lol.

“Wow, I've never thought about it this much before. Lol. I think maybe explaining it in detail helped ME understand it better as well! Hope it helped.”

4) `thankyou_kind_BBC` wrote, “A smart woman. One hundred percent I wanna feel almost intimidated talking to her.”

`COVID_19_Lockdown` commented, “So you want a bookish dominatrix?”

`thankyou_kind_BBC` responded, “If that's what they're called. ;)”<sup>78</sup>

### **79. “What Are Some Compliments That Someone Gave You That Really Stuck With You?”**

The Original Poster, `youneedtherapysir`, added, “I have been told that I ‘lead with love’ and that one makes my heart happy. :)”

1) `wellhoneydont` wrote, “My junior high bully seeing some of my drawings and telling me ‘your art is really good, but I still hate you’ will always be a personal favorite.”

2) `mahasus` wrote, “I was telling my boyfriend I couldn't wait to have a bathtub so I could read my book and drink tea while taking a bath and he laughed and said, ‘You love romanticizing life, it's like you're in love with life,’ and it was the cutest thing I've ever heard.”

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<sup>78</sup> Source: `NeedToLaughAtThis`, “What instantly makes a girl hot?” Reddit. AskReddit. 17 September 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/pq59pe/what\\_instantly\\_makes\\_a\\_girl\\_hot/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/pq59pe/what_instantly_makes_a_girl_hot/) >.



3) Throwaway9929291 wrote:

“I have a small brother who sometimes has his friends over. As the big brother, I want to be nice so whenever I am home and see his friends I try to be nice and make them all feel at home. They’re kids, so I don’t want them to be upset for not being with their parents (they’re ~10 years old, I’m late 20s).

“Anyways, some time goes by and I hear from my stepmom that one of my brother’s friends said that I have a ‘beautiful voice.’ As a man, I’ve never heard this. And on top of that, it really touched me, because I actively consider getting a thyroplasty III, which is for males who want to lower the frequency of their voice.

“It felt really spontaneous — because he’s just a kid, he had no reason to lie, and I’m very insecure about my voice. It’s more on the high-pitched side. It’s not what I would consider manly, and it’s not the type of voice that projects leadership, confidence, masculinity, etc. He’s only 10 and it was probably just one of those things kids say, but I think because of that it also feels very genuine. I think about this all the time.”

therealsix commented, “Side note, Walter Payton is one of my favorite football players of all time, a total beast, but when you hear him speak, he doesn’t have the booming, leading, masculine voice; instead, [he’s very soft spoken](#). Same with Mike Tyson. So don’t have your voice be your identity and dictate who you are as a person. We’re all different, and that’s what makes us beautifully unique. Now, I totally understand how you may feel about your voice, and if it’s something that you feel will make you better, then by all means, do it, but just know that your attitude, personality, and drive are what make you who you are, not just your voice. Have a great weekend!”

4) mysteriousmind666 wrote:

“I’m fortunate to have gotten many compliments that have stuck.

“However, yesterday, I received one the made me smile. In a team meeting, we got on the topic of having a buddy or BF [Best Friend?] at work. The one teammate said that in the last couple of weeks that she does feel like she has one now since I have started mentoring her. Then another Teammate said she felt I was her BF at work too. It was funny how it played out.

“Later in the day, I connected with my leader about something else. At the end of the call, she said that I had a very extraordinary way of making everyone I talk to feel like they are special and important either to the team or me. I mentioned that to my daughter, who replied, ‘It’s not just at work, you know.’

“That stuck with me. I think it will stick for a while. :)”

5) LilyMorticia666 wrote:

“My ex was really abusive and he would know my sore spots and hit there. I have tubular breasts (type 3) and he knows I don’t like them and frankly I’m kinda disgusted by them. One time in a fight he would say I have ‘deformed midget boobs.’ I have tendency to cut myself (BPD) and in the heat of the moment I cut my boob. After that I have burned cigarettes in them and overall wish they would be gone.

“Talking about this in therapy, my therapist said, ‘Your boobs are innocent,’ and this stayed with me. If anyone you have some tendencies to hurt, mutilate or harm your body or body parts in any way or whatever reason (punishment, anger, disgust), remember that your body is innocent.”

6) Ruby\_Something wrote, “A stranger on the street just said, ‘I love your style,’ as I walked past. I always

remembered how it made me feel, and I pass it on when I get the chance.”

7) CrystalShipSarcasm wrote:

“I was driving and stopped at a red light. The lady in the car next to me was staring and waving. I didn’t know her, but I rolled my window down and she beamed, ‘You’re so fucking gorgeous. I can’t say it strongly enough. Wow.’

“I turned red and said, ‘Thank you.’ She made my day. Thank you, random car stranger. My bi little heart.”

8) PrincessBiona wrote, “I had a 9am meeting with my PhD supervisor and afterwards he sent me an email saying how delighted he is to have morning meetings with me because my general joy for life is so infectious.”

9) betta\_fische wrote:

“‘You’re an easy person to love.’

“I always feel like I’m too much (too heated, too argumentative, too much of a space case, etc.), but my parents told me that once and it just felt so comforting to think someone who knows you that well thinks that of you.”

Foxy\_Engineer commented, “I’m definitely using this with my own kids. What a powerful but simple sentiment.”<sup>79</sup>

## **80. “What Is The Most Romantic Thing You’ve Ever Done Or Had Done For You?”**

1) ConnorDahne wrote:

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<sup>79</sup> Source: youneedtherapysir, “What are some compliments that someone gave you that really stuck with you?” Reddit. AskWomen. 17 September 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/ppvb1t/what\\_are\\_some\\_compliments\\_that\\_someone\\_gave\\_you/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/ppvb1t/what_are_some_compliments_that_someone_gave_you/) >.

“It’s not so much one specific event, but the consistency of it.

“For five days a week, I work in a different state than my partner, and on my last day of work I get off at midnight and drive two hours back home for our weekend together. Every single time I come home, he has it timed out to where he’s pulling a towel out of the dryer so I have a warm towel to dry off with after my shower, plates dinner for me while I am getting cleaned up, and we talk about our week while eating dinner at 3am.

“Honestly, we’ve been doing this routine for about a year now and I still can’t believe someone can be so thoughtful.”

2) ProfitHour4768 wrote, “I said I don’t want to kill flowers, I don’t like getting flowers as a present. I got origami flowers.”

pongzyo commented, “That’s lovely! Reminds me of a similar story of mine. I told a girl I loved pine trees but couldn’t touch them because I got a horrible rash. She got me a pine-scented candle.”

3) blackwilloww wrote, “My husband learned how to bake so he could make me a cake for my birthday. This has been going on every year since we started dating and the cake changes every year. Last year’s was a carrot cake.”

4) Stupid\_cerealbox wrote, “My kindergarten crush would give me dandelions from the playground during recess, such a gentleman.”

5) Lance4494 wrote, “She has never once had to cook dinner in four years of marriage.”

Lance4494 added, “If I were to stop cooking, her diet would consist of fast food, spam, and Vienna sausages.”

6) naugasnake wrote:

“Took a woman on a midnight picnic once. Blankets, baskets, linens, real wine glasses, metal silverware. I packed wine, cheese, cured meats, olives, etc. Middle of a soccer field, on a perfect night in the middle of nowhere. Brought a radio, played her favorite music.

“Long story short, we’ve been together 25 years now, and as happy as ever.”

7) 2TrealTrader wrote:

“A girl I dated in our early 20’s, she went to visit her aunt and uncle, and I was to take a road trip and pick her up, when I got there, she had sewed me a square sewing of a bear, it said, ‘I love you beary much.’

“Very sweet. I guess she was knitting while she was there with her aunt.”

8) PooterClevage wrote, “Went through our high school football field when we had our biggest snow. Worked for about three hours shoveling out, ‘I love you,’ then drove by the field with her.”

9) 1followerbefore2021 wrote, “A girl once said hi to me.”

Zoegirl98 commented, “Lucky. One time three years ago, a girl said my shirt was cool.”

Dittro wrote, “A girl once remotely looked at my general direction.”

10) DudeManThing1 wrote, “I once flirted with a girl, and she walked closer and looked me in the eyes and said, ‘I mean, I wouldn’t mind.’”

OUTRAGE\_SWAMPERT asked, “What happened next?”

DudeManThing1 responded, “Her friend went between us and said, ‘OKAY, that’s enough, lovebirds.’ We started

laughing. Sorry, it's not the best ending, but life is often disappointing.”

11) reluctantly\_human wrote:

“Years ago, just out of high school, I was on a first or second date with a gal I really liked. It wasn't much of a date — we were hanging out at my family's house with my family. It was so chill she played chess with my brother and we all gave each other shit.

“At some point in the evening, we were talking and I mentioned offhand that I really didn't like kissing someone wearing lipstick. She was wearing red lipstick. I didn't think much of the comment as I wasn't directing it to her or mean it critically. It had come up organically in conversation.

“However, some hours later, as she left, she stepped away to use the restroom before driving home. I walked her out to her car and as we were saying goodbye I noticed.

“‘You're not wearing lipstick!’

“‘No, I'm not,’ she replied with a big smile.

“I thought it was seriously adorable and it was a very nice first kiss!”<sup>80</sup>

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<sup>80</sup> Source: GleamingKlotz1975, “What is the most romantic thing you've ever done or had done for you??” Reddit. AskReddit. 19 September 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/prhdjo/what\\_is\\_the\\_most\\_romantic\\_thing\\_youve\\_ever\\_done/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/prhdjo/what_is_the_most_romantic_thing_youve_ever_done/) >.

## Chapter 5: Stories 81-100

### 81. “What Made You A Legend?”

DavidKr98 wrote, “I used to play *Sims 3* as a kid only because it would get all the girls to come to my house. The other boys thought I was a legend, but I never revealed them my secret, heh.”<sup>81</sup>

### 82. “What Is The Most Interesting Conversation Starter You Have Heard?”

1) amazingstillitseems wrote:

“A dude walks up to me at a cafe and says ‘pineapple.’ I look at him for a while and say ‘peach.’ Then we go on like this, naming fruits until finally one of us laughs and we move on to an actual conversation.

“I know it’s a real meet cute type of scenario but after he got my number he never got in touch! So we didn’t even end up going on a real date.”

2) radioactive-sperm wrote, “One of my favorite customers asked me recently: ‘I think everyone has an obsession. What’s yours?’ I think that’s a wonderful way to get to know people. Instantly gets them talking about something they’re really passionate about.”

CRJG95 commented, “‘What’s your passion?’ seems like good small talk. Telling someone you’re really into baking different kinds of bread, or you know the family trees of every character in *A Song of Ice and Fire*, or you followed One Direction on tour, are all fun conversations starters and

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<sup>81</sup> Source: essenceofesther, “What’s something that you liked but that has really declined in quality?” Reddit. AskWomen. 21 September 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/psywsw/whats\\_something\\_that\\_you\\_liked\\_but\\_that\\_has/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/psywsw/whats_something_that_you_liked_but_that_has/) >.

you can get as personal as you want to or keep it really light. It's hardly asking, 'Hey, so what's your deepest childhood trauma?'"

3) TwinklyLite wrote, "B\*\*\*\*, we're friends now."

cliteratomonster wrote:

"Literally how I made my most recent friend. She was a classmate in an online class but didn't live in the same city as me. When classes went back to in person and she said she was moving here, I said, 'I hope you know I'm determined to be friends with you.'

"And now we are friends."

Triviettum wrote, "This worked for me once before! I was in high school; there was this girl I always saw who got off at my same bus stop after school, and she would talk about the same gaming YouTubers I used to watch. I literally walked up to her when we both got off the bus one day and told her I'd like to be friends with her because I heard her talking about Markiplier (lol) and we remained friends until we drifted apart when we graduated."

eightales commented:

"Did that once.

"Still friends with all three of them."

throatafrog commented, "That's how I found my best friend eight years ago, and another one six years ago."

4) ActGroundbreaking125 wrote, "I usually ask people what color their toothbrushes are and why, it confuses people and they always answer with passion why they choose this color."

DaydreamsAndDoubt wrote, "Ok, so now I have to know what color yours is and why."



Cosmetic-Cloud answered, “Pink, because it is the only ‘girl’ colour in the pack and my brothers won’t be seen dead with that toothbrush. I will get the blue toothbrush one day ... one day.”

Cosmetic-Cloud added, “In reality I couldn’t care less either once I have the toothbrush. It is just kind of a running joke as I was raised the only girl in a house full of boys and am always trying to prove that I’m just as good as them.”

5) Happy-birdie-918 wrote:

“Context: I was in a bio lab for a mixed group of students (I was early MA, the gal across the table was in late BS, and the kid next to her was FRESH from high school). He actually asked the lab TA, ‘How do I make a table of contents in the lab journal?’ And managed to ask the same question at LEAST six times throughout the first class. By the fourth time, I was having a *HARRRRDDDD* time not letting my eyes roll out of my head, but I saw the gal across the table from me having the same physical reaction.

“Conversation starter after class: Gal and I were waiting for the elevator and I turned to her and said, “I saw what you did when [name] asked the same ridiculous question over and over.’ She blushed and her eyes got big. I continued on, ‘Oh, don’t worry, I am amazed the back table didn’t *see* me do the same thing!” We both giggled at that point, and we have been friends since!”

6) destria wrote, ““Hey, there’s a £1 return journey mega-bus to Paris tonight, want to come?” And that’s the story of how I spent 24 hours traveling from London to Paris on a bus full of drunk students.”

Grunherz asked, “Wait, did the mega-bus go on a ferry? Did that not take like five hours or something on the ferry alone?”

destria answered:

“Eurotunnel. There’s a service that carries vehicles including buses / coaches.

“But even on a ferry it’s only like 90 mins to cross, the UK and France are very close (geographically).”

CRJG95 commented, “The ferry from Dover to Calais takes like 90 minutes, not five hours. But also there’s a tunnel. London to Paris on a coach is about eight hours total.”

7) oddnyc2 wrote, “Someone stopped me and my Significant Other in the middle of a bodega at 2 am while we were stoned shopping for snacks and said to us, ‘You guys look good together from a eugenics perspective. All right, see you guys later!’ and then he left.”

8) Inevitable\_Ad\_9994 wrote, “Well, I find it quite interesting and awesome how little kids just say, ‘Hi! Let’s be friends’ or ‘Hey, do you want to play with me?’ and that’s it, they have a good time, they become friends, and they are themselves. Of course, it also depends on people’s personality, but I think that it is easier for children to enjoy and to be themselves.”

holy-reddit-batman wrote, “My friend’s daughter got home from going to a playground with her dad and my friend asked her if any of her friends were there. Her daughter answered, ‘Only the ones I haven’t met yet!’ Melts my heart every time I think about it.”

Xtab2 commented, “My kiddo had difficulties in this area so most of the time I just jumped in and said, ‘Hi! You see that kid? That’s my kid. His name is [kid’s name], he is funny, and he wants to play.’ It’s how my kid got friends in the first place and I would every time ask the kid’s name and introduce us to the parents if the playing was successful because my kid wasn’t good with names. We got lucky no kids found it strange.”

Tryph0sa commented, “My family used to spend A LOT of time every summer at the town park pool when I was a little kid. I was super friendly, always looking for someone new to play with, but had a terrible memory for names. So inevitably my new friends and I would go back to our respective chaperones for a snack break, and when I’d try to reconnect with them, I’d try to get their attention waving them down by calling out, ‘Friend! Oh, friend!’ Still a family joke to this day. Oh, to be a little kid again and not immediately expect to hate every new possible friend I encounter.”

DJragoness commented, “This is exactly how I met a lifelong friend in college. Freshman year a girl walks into my dorm room and simply says, ‘Hi, I’m Alba. Want to be friends?’ Long story short, we ended up being roomies all through university and are still close 20 years later. I love her guts and was taken aback by that childlike intro.”

9) tdombrow wrote:

“Best convo I ever had was a result of the two of us being equally disgusted by our friend putting ketchup on his chili. She looked at me. I looked at her. ‘Dude. Did we just become best friends?’

“She was one of my favorite humans. We lost her a few years ago to cancer. But you better believe when Paul puts ketchup on his chili, she is looking down on him and giving him the hardest eye roll.”

10) leafyfire wrote, “My parents signed me up to summer school back when I was 16 because I got a B in my English class. I met a guy there, he just said a simple ‘Hi’ to me, I said ‘Hola,’ and then we kept saying hello in different languages. It was silly, but it was nice for a change. :) The ‘Hey, how are you doing?’ everyday gets boring.”

velvetvagine commented, “Summer school for a B!”

leafyfire responded, “Yeah, I don’t know how common that is. I didn’t even know that was a thing until my parents signed me up unwillingly.”

VagabondDreamGirl commented, “Most of the kids in the summer school I taught were more than a year behind academically. I felt so bad for the legit honors students whose parents thought it was some sort of enrichment activity; the program was definitely not made with them in mind.”

blue\_square commented, “My friend always had to take summer school for the class he got the lowest grade in. If he got straight A’s, then he got to pick which class he took for summer school.”

12) NewPerspective1111 wrote, “Have you heard about our lord and savior Jesus Christ?”

SOwED commented, “Just say no and see what happens.”

TheHappinessAssassin commented, “Yeah, terrible what happened; he sounded like a good guy.”

ThatsNotPossibleMan wrote, “I heard about it last night and I still can’t believe it.”<sup>82</sup>

### **83. “How Did You Handle Your First Period?”**

iFans-Bella, the Original Poster of this question, added, “Were you prepared? Did you panic? How old were you? Not specific to just women, but statistically they do deal with this more. Lol.”

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<sup>82</sup> Source: Rulerofgalaxies45, “What is the most interesting conversation starter you have heard?” Reddit. AskWomen. 21 September 2021 <

[https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/psnld8/what\\_is\\_the\\_most\\_interesting\\_conversation\\_starter/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/psnld8/what_is_the_most_interesting_conversation_starter/)>.

1) Logical\_KaleV wrote, “Oh, my god. I thought I was dying. So not prepared. Total panic. I was 11 years old. Called a friend who was older and they told my mom and then we went to the store and I was taught what to expect and what to do.”

Historical\_Salt\_Bae commented, “I feel for you. I was 13 but homeschooled and my very religious mom completely skipped anything to do with the ‘nether regions.’ I made sure my daughter knew earlier than she should’ve and I’m glad I did. She helped a few different girls who got theirs at school because we always sent her with a few pads just in case. Talk to your kids and prepare them about the weird / gross / hard-to-talk-about-but-natural stuff.”

Khoralia commented, “Age 11. I didn’t feel it. I noticed a lot of it on my trousers and underwear only when I went to toilet and freaked out. Luckily I was at home, mom came running and clued me in on what was happening. I don’t know about other countries, I can speak only for my own, but I find they have like human biology classes way too late. I was 4th grade when my period started, in school they only taught us about it in 8th grade, before going off to high school.”

BaffoKat wrote, “I started in 5th grade and honestly if it hadn’t been for my mom teaching me about it before I wouldn’t have known what to do at all. They really need to teach about it in schools way earlier.”

2) dawnm193 wrote:

“I was 12 years old, and it was Sunday football in my house so a lot of my family was over. I went to pee before bed and saw this dried brown substance on my underwear, I thought I shit myself but then realized what it actually was.

“I went up to my mom and told her discretely, she sent my dad out to buy pads, and I kind of just dealt with it. Didn’t

panic, was kinda just like ugh, now I gotta worry about this every month.

“I do remember for a while after this that I was so nervous about getting raped and getting pregnant now that it was possible.”

3) MauiMoon\_\_ wrote:

“My dad was a single father and between the ‘watch out for men’ and ‘tell me if anyone makes you feel uncomfortable’ talks, he complete forgot to prepare me for my first period.

“So, not good at all. For some reason, I thought it would last only minutes and I kept checking every few minutes and it was still bleeding and I was freaking out!”

3) Etronun wrote, “I was annoyed because I had to tell my mum so she could get me pads and I don’t like speaking with her about things like that. It was regular and common knowledge already taught to me on what to do or expect, so it was nothing super memorable or special. I think I was 12, and now I’m annoyed all over again. Lol.”

4) No-Surround1664 wrote:

“I was nine years old. Luckily that day I was wearing black shorts. I remember being in pain while at school (in the afternoon). But I just kept jumping rope. It was Friday free day, so we had second recess in the afternoon. Once I got home. I went to the restroom ... and obviously I panicked.

“I told my mom. She handed me a pad. And then said, ‘Now you’re a woman. Don’t be naked with boys.’

“I put on the pad and went out to play. That was it.

“Lol.”

5) Proud-Combination398 wrote:

“Got home from the bus, checked my underwear in the bathroom. Cried. I thought I pooped my pants at first since it was brown. Even after I realized it was my period, I still cried. I don’t know why. I was probably scared or embarrassed.

“When my mom came home, I slid her a Post-It note that said, ‘I got my period.’ I was too embarrassed to say it to her face. She just laughed it off and was nice about it. She was like, ‘Why are you crying? It’s ok.’ Lmaooo.”

6) Happy-birdie-918 wrote:

“I was between 5th and 6th grades, home alone back when that was legal to do all summer long, and I thought I was dying but knew we didn’t have money (single mother was very open about being poor) to go to the ER, so I thought I was ACTUALLY going to die! I tried to call mom at work, she just said to get a pad and put it in my underpants and I would be fine. So I sat there ... alone ... for over four hours ... thinking that was the end of everything.

“Not doing that for my kids! They are all ready, have starter kits, know what to look for, know to let me know because we go for ice cream, just me and kiddo (so far just the biggest one but about time for the younger one now), and we are waiting for the ‘lady fairy.’ Lol!”

7) SuitableCamel6129 wrote, “I was not a curious kid and kinda dumb. I saw it but since it didn’t hurt, I just kept going about my day. When my mom did the laundry, she saw the blood and asked how long I had been bleeding. I said a couple days so she sat me down and told me I needed to use pads. I put it on so I could go outside and play. All that mattered to me at 11 was to be out playing.”

heysweetannie commented, “Aww, same. Didn’t tell my mom and didn’t care if it didn’t stop me from running around. I didn’t think it was a period because school had me

convinced that I would have to squat over a bucket for a week every month the rest of my life.”

8) celestialyssa wrote, “I remember my mom was at work and my dad had just retired from the military so he was at home while he looked for another job. It was before school (I think I was in 6th or 7th grade) and I came into his bedroom, saying, ‘Daddy, I think I got my first period,’ and he kind of freaked out because I don’t think he knew what to do. Lol. He called my mom, and he went to the store and bought me pads and then brought me to school late.”

9) Kyyurem wrote:

“I was 10 and got it at school, I was terrified. My mom had passed that summer and my stepmom hated me for some reason so I had no guidance on what to do. I was told there was ‘stuff in the closet’ and had to figure it out.

“If I have any daughters, I’m going to make sure they’re well prepared / informed so they don’t end up like I did.”

10) lovervvs wrote, “I was 12. My older sister already had hers and my family already taught me about them. I didn’t panic. I was super excited. Ended up staying home from school. Lol.”

11) yukisa90 wrote:

“I was 11 years, watching *Twilight* in my parents’ room. I went to use the bathroom and saw my underwear stained brown and thought ‘ugh ... eww ... gross ... please ... no no no’ and put on a pantyliner that I got from that one puberty introduction lesson in fifth grade. They handed out a zippered pouch with different types of sanitary napkins. But I wanted to use the smallest one and I quickly learned that wasn’t going to be enough. I dreaded telling my mom, but I went out to the living room where she was watching tv and told her I needed to buy pads. I think I also might have



told her to not smile and to keep it secret. Lol. And then when I put on an actual pad I felt like I was wearing a diaper and could hear the plastic of the pad rustle when I walked. I was mortified.

“I grabbed a fistful of my hair and sank onto the floor. I cried into my pillow and wished I was born a boy. And then I looked into the mirror and cursed at myself for not having been born a boy. All while wearing a diaper (pad) I loathed.

“I’ve been wearing a menstrual cup for about four years now. It’s the best switch I ever made.

“PS: My Health teacher said when she first got hers, she woke up in a pool of blood and yelled, ‘MOM, HELP! I’VE BEEN SHOT IN THE VAGINA!’”

12) itsnotjoeybadass wrote:

“I was prepared. Lol.

“I was 14 and I was on the computer one summer and drinking Mountain Dew (the blue one, so you know it was great).

“I suddenly had to pee since I was downing the Dews and then I see brown blood in my underwear and I thought, ‘Dang. My period.’ Lol. I cleaned myself up and used my mom’s pad and then told her and she got excited that I’m a woman finally and that was that.

“I did a lot of research on periods leading up to that point because Young Kid With Access To Internet, why not, so I knew what to expect and how to deal with it and I’m SOOO glad it happened while at home.”<sup>83</sup>

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<sup>83</sup> Source: iFans-Bella, “How did you handle your first period?” Reddit. AskWomen. 22 September 2021 <

**84. “Trans Women Who Are ‘Passing’ (For Lack Of A Better Word), How Has Being Female Changed The Way People Treat You And Did Those Changes Surprise You?”**

1) StartingaGwen wrote:

“I have only recently started passing (age 37, UK), and I am still in that honeymoon phase where any affirmation makes me smile uncontrollably. From the smallest ‘Excuse me, madam,’ to having someone say, ‘Nooo, really?’ when I come out to them. I feel grateful and humbled by my good fortune to now have something I wanted for many years. That said, my perspective is clearly rose-tinted.

“I am aware of the gaze of both men and women. I used to feel invisible.

“Women smile at me in the street, and men have stopped the customary head-nod.

“I’ve been approached by strangers asking for directions. I definitely feel more approachable, but that could be because my happiness and life satisfaction is so much better. But men on the whole are never someone’s first choice when asking for help.

“What surprised me is the chivalry I’ve seen. Men crossing the street so as not to appear threatening (I used to do that; also it might be a COVID thing). Opening doors or pausing to let me through first.

“I have donned a ton of emotional armour to prepare myself for misogyny, the additional superficial criticism that women endure, being held to a higher standard than before. What surprised me is that I don’t need much armour at all.

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[https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/ptmykm/how\\_did\\_you\\_handle\\_your\\_first\\_period/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/ptmykm/how_did_you_handle_your_first_period/)>.

Turns out that being happy, and surrounding myself with good friends and colleagues, is enough to shield me from even the worst negativity.

“I know that I am lucky. Few trans women ever get to this stage — especially in the UK. I can speak only from my personal experience. The media hate and the Twitter arguments I read bear no relation to the support and encouragement I’ve had.”

2) BadKittydetexe wrote:

“It’s surprising how differently men look at me. Not just checking me out, but more aggressively staring. They won’t break eye contact if I meet their eyes. There’s also just something noticeably different in the way they look that I can’t explain.

“Men will also find any excuse to talk to me, which is still kind of bewildering. I really don’t expect someone to try to have a conversation with me in the lotion aisle at the grocery store. Salesmen will go out of their way to ask me if I need help, including weird things like leading me all over the store when they don’t actually know where the thing I want is.

“They can also be really sweet in surprising ways, with their tone of voice or body language. Sort of gentle or something. I’m not into guys, but it’s kind of cute how soft they can be about stuff. Or they’ll usually stop and wave me along. Not that people don’t generally do this, but it seems to happen more now.

“Although the other side of this is some guys think they can do whatever they want. Expecting me to avoid bumping into them. Or I walked away from my cart at Lowe’s and when I came back a minute later some guy had taken my item, put it on the floor and taken my cart. I can’t imagine that happening when I was presenting male.

“Nobody asks me to carry things anymore, which is nice. If I buy something, they just automatically get someone to move it for me.

“People touch me a lot more than they used to. Typically just on the arm or whatever, which is fine, but people don’t seem to think twice about it. They’ll also touch the small of my back and that’s kind of a different story and I don’t like it from most people.

“Other women are generally more open and make more conversation. It’s nice, too, because I can compliment them without them assuming I’m hitting on them. And I get more compliments, even just from random women walking by, which is great.

“I’m sure there are a lot of other things that aren’t coming to mind at the moment, but those are some of the bigger ones.”

3) Dizzy\_Seaworthiness wrote:

“I get treated very well and am humbled by it.

“I find women smile more at me when we meet or pass by each other, and I am welcomed into women’s spaces without hesitation and feel at ease. Men treat me with respect and are very chivalrous and respectful. I have been offered help to do things that I can do myself and I have often let them help me out as it feels good.

“It took me a while to be comfortable with being a woman, and not feel that I was an imposter. Now it’s just me, and I adore being a woman.”

4) DemonicGirlcock wrote:

“In general, strangers engage with me a lot more frequently. Things like people greeting me or just smiling as they pass. People complimenting my appearance (both in good ways and in creepy ways).

“I’ve run into some of the chivalrous / patriarchal things, like guys holding doors for me, or when people assume I’m not technically or mechanically savvy.

“I’ve also dealt with catcalling, and guys harassing and following me. Thankfully, I haven’t had any physical altercations yet.

“If I had to pick out a single most noticeable thing, it’s that people will go out of their way to compliment me or just chat with me way more often. Like, a few times a year before to a few times a week now.”

5) xx\_gamergirl\_\_xx wrote, “As many others said, I seem to have become more approachable. Strangers asking me for help with trains when I’m in the station, or for directions on the road. Men sometimes look at me more, but since I’m very socially anxious I tend to avoid eye contact and wear earphones to distract myself from the busyness around me. I will hopefully slowly start to go out more by myself since I only ever really started passing since covid began, and hopefully I will get some new good experiences. When doing my student job, I noticed men were more easily impressed in general, but that might be because I’m just a fast learner overall, and also watching out for me more, asking if something isn’t too heavy for me to lift and all that. (I’m not the strongest one out there. Lol.) Overall, I’d say people have become more polite and sort of more protective over me, and I’ve become more approachable by others.”<sup>84</sup>

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<sup>84</sup> Source: Oishiio42, “Trans women who are ‘passing’ (for lack of a better word), how has being female changed the way people treat you and did those changes surprise you?” Reddit. AskWomen. 23 September 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/pu8obi/trans\\_women\\_who\\_are\\_passing\\_for\\_lack\\_of\\_a\\_better/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/pu8obi/trans_women_who_are_passing_for_lack_of_a_better/)>.

## 85. “How Did You Meet Your Girlfriend / Boyfriend / Wife / Husband?”

TheBoringRogue wrote:

“I quit my job, got rid of my house and went to Spain to walk el Camino de Santiago. On the way I met a lady from a small Baltic country also walking.

“Long story short, eight years, three countries later, we are married with a son living our best lives!”

I\_love\_donuts\_3000 commented, “*The Pilgrimage* is based on this route, right? Read that a long time ago!”

TheBoringRogue responded, “Yeah, started in France then walked over the Pyrenees, across Spain to a place called Finnestera on the west coast. It was really something. Nothing but waking up, walking, sleeping.”

I\_love\_donuts\_3000 asked, “Man, I want to experience this once. Are people from different faiths allowed to undertake this journey or is it specific to a group?”

TheBoringRogue responded:

“It’s open. I’m of no faith. I met all types. There is certainly no one checking your agenda / faith, etc. They ask at in Santiago if you want to get a certificate of your walk but you can put anything down faith wise.

“It really was something that very literally changed the course of my life. But the freedom of having nothing but a bag on your back and a direction to walk was something else. Took a week or so to shed the carry overs from everyday life, but then just living-in-the-moment bliss. The greatest difficulty I found and others I spoke with, was finding the time to do it. You need 4/6 weeks and that can be hard to navigate with other commitments. I was fortunate that I was

at a point where I felt I wasn't where I wanted to be in life. So the scrap-it-all-and-start-again option worked for me.

“We are planning to go again as a family. Walk it with our son. Just now I have a life we love living, and it is difficult to find the time.”<sup>85</sup>

## **86. “Men Of Reddit, What Is The Best Compliment You’ve Received From A Woman?”**

1) DaveRobis wrote:

“We’d been dating for a few weeks and I had just finished listing off everything I liked about her, but ultimately I said her eyes were my favorite feature. Curious, I asked her what was her favorite thing about me and she turned beet red and looked away. I was confused by her reaction so I asked again. She mumbled something in response, clearly embarrassed, so I said, ‘What was that?’ and she sighs and goes, ‘Your dick, okay.’

“It’s been more than six years since and our first child is due in January. To this day, my wife is still embarrassed by that admission, but it’s become a hilarious inside joke to us both.”

2) Tink2013 wrote, “When my girlfriend got into my car for our 4th date, she said, ‘Can you take me to the hospital? I believe I have broken both of my legs ... falling for you.’”

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<sup>85</sup> Source: Nuxly, “How did you meet your girlfriend/boyfriend/wife/husband?” Reddit. AskReddit. 26 September 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/pvqn6h/how\\_did\\_you\\_meet\\_your/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/pvqn6h/how_did_you_meet_your/) >.

3) deamfranz12 wrote, “She said, ‘Do you mind if I hold the door open for you? ... So I can look at your butt.’”<sup>86</sup>

### **87. “What Happened When You Saw Someone Pick On The Wrong Person?”**

1) Odd-Sandwich-3111 wrote:

“I was at a Machine Gun Kelly concert a few weeks ago in general admission. We made friends with some people next to us; a dad who took his 14-year-old daughter and her friend to the show. He was a really nice guy and his daughter was so excited to be at her first-ever concert. Two minutes after the show starts, a fight breaks out right next to us. We quickly realize it’s the dad we met, fighting some late twenties Chad-looking guy.

“It lasted only a couple of minutes— we watched as Chad ripped the dad’s shirt in half off of him, only for the dad to then clock him so hard in the face that he fell to the ground and scurried away. We later found out from our new friend that the Chad guy had come up to his daughter from the crowd and started touching her inappropriately. Shirtless, the dad finished out the concert with his daughter. It was awesome. Lol.”

2) Renoux\_Venture wrote:

“Back in 2019, my family and I decided to go on a road trip up the east coast. One night, we decided to stop in Fort Bragg, NC. While there, we elected to head to this small bar to get some dinner before calling it a night. Upon arriving, I notice there’s this one really loud dude who’s trying to flirt

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<sup>86</sup> Source: pervertedfiend, “Men of reddit, what is the best compliment you’ve received from a woman?” Reddit. AskReddit. 28 September 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/px2ad7/men\\_of\\_reddit\\_what\\_is\\_the\\_best\\_compliment\\_youve/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/px2ad7/men_of_reddit_what_is_the_best_compliment_youve/) >.



with every single girl who walked into the bar. Anyways, there's this one lady whom he's really bugging, and you can visibly tell that she's uncomfortable but he's not stopping.

“That lady then decides to go sit down next to this really quiet bunch of dudes in the corner. Upon noticing the company these men were giving her, he walks up to them and starts losing it. He yells a ton of obscenities and tries to show off the fact that he was [an elite soldier — probably a lie] or something, but these dudes just ignore him. Eventually, he gives up and just grabs the girl's arm. At that exact moment, one of the men stands up, grabs that dude's arm, flips him like a ragdoll onto the ground, and pins his arm to the ground. They have a quick chat about niceties before letting him go and that dude is promptly ushered out of the restaurant.

“Later found out, they were special forces of some type!”

3) reflectrofluis wrote, “In 6th grade, bully decides to pick on the class nerd one more time by pushing his books from his desk to the floor. Class nerd grabs a pencil and stabs him directly in the shoulder. The look on the bully's face was pure confusion as the pencil protruded from his shoulder. The nerd was suspended and missed a big overnight trip for our ‘gifted’ kids class, but I like to think he never regretted it.”

Makoschar commented, “I did this to a boy in ninth grade who wouldn't stop kicking my chair even when I asked him to stop. I stabbed him in the thigh, but he didn't report me and toughed it out until next period (likely because I'm a girl and it was the 2000s). He did, however, never sit behind me again.”

4) Zkenny13 wrote, “During high school the wrestling team and football team shared the weight room where you work out. Some of the football players started picking on the soon-

to-be-state-champion's younger brother. We found out that day that football players, while strong, can't get out of wrestling holds that make you a human pretzel."

5) dilligafatallever wrote:

"Big guy bashes Andrew out the front of hotel. Big guy is big 6'5" door-frame size. Fight goes how you would expect.

"Andrew, while in the gutter, calls his brother Michael, who is inside hotel. Big guy continues his verbal abuse, and asks, 'Who's next?'

"Turns out, Michael's next, and Michael punches big guy at least 10 times with the cleanest boxing I have ever seen.

"I was a bouncer for over ten years, still shocks me, when I think about it."

6) thunderfart\_99 wrote:

"One of my friends went to an inner-city comprehensive school in a rough part of a big city in the north of England. One of the bullies at the school was known for being a sadistic prick who picked on anybody. One morning some new students arrived at the school, and it was apparent they were of gypsy origin. The bully made an incredibly derogatory comment about people from gypsy origin.

"Big mistake.

"One of the girls of gypsy origin charged at the bully and literally just pummeled him to the ground, and then just started savagely beating him. She was landing punches left, right, and centre, and literally going at him like a wild animal. She would not stop! It took three or four teachers to get her off him, and even then she was still trying to go for him so they had to get him out of the room. She was screaming all sorts of obscenities at him and saying that he better look over his shoulder as he's a marked man."

Witch\_shhh commented, “This reminds me of the movie *Drag Me to Hell*. Never mess with a gypsy or better yet, never mess with anyone for no fucking reason. Preach kindness.”

7) jclom0 wrote:

“My sister who is a year older than me was really quiet and shy and read a lot of books when she was a kid. She and I used to fight like siblings do, and I can say she was a lot tougher than she looked.

“When I was about nine years old, there was a girl in my class who was a bully. She’d pick on one person for a week, then move to the next person and so on. Eventually she was picking on me and I was miserable. My sister must have noticed and started keeping an eye on me.

“At lunch this bully was beating me up. Out of nowhere, my sister came flying in and beat the s\*\*t out of her while shouting, ‘No one hits my sister but me!’”

8) Anyroo68 wrote:

“My brother made the REALLY dumb decision to cheat on his girlfriend and got caught. The girlfriend happened to be a zookeeper.

“She found text messages on his phone where he was talking about her to this other girl, saying, ‘She stinks all the time. I’ll leave her soon and just be with you.’

“She also happened to have a key to his apartment.

“He found out that was a good way to get 50 pounds of otter / seal shit dumped on his bed with a break-up note.

“He said he instantly puked when he got home that day, and the smell took ages to die down.”

9) nawmynameisclarenc wrote:

“This is personal. A friend and I would walk home from middle school. I was in 8th grade and he was in 7th. There was a 9th grader that walked the same route. He was five inches taller and 30 pounds bigger than me. He would pick on us all the time. Throw us down. Punch. Spit. Sometimes him and sometimes me.

“So we made a pact. If he starts in on one of us, we both take him.

“So a couple days later, he puts my friend in a head lock. So I put him in one and managed to pull him down. As he started to overpower me, my friend kicked him in the head. I choked him while my friend just kept kicking him with hiking boots. Beat the living shit out of him. Blood from his mouth and nose. Gravel burn on his face. Four months of hate came out all at once. Never fucked with us again. Asshole.”

10) Little\_BabyBirdie20 wrote, “When I was in middle school, one time I saw this boy creepily sneaking up on a girl and he grabbed her @\$\$. She spun around, smacked him in the face with her purse, and started kicking him in the balls. He freaked out and ran off. Never saw him mess with a girl again.”<sup>87</sup>

### **88. “What’s The Creepiest / Most Unexplainable Thing That You’ve Ever Experienced?”**

TetonHiker wrote:

“I was a young mother with two kids about eight months and three years old. We lived in Pittsburgh in an old Victorian home — very common there. We had just come home from a long Easter Sunday at my brother-in-law’s. The kids were

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<sup>87</sup> Source: ZPM89, “What happened when you saw someone pick on the wrong person?” Reddit. AskReddit. 2 October 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/q045zn/what\\_happened\\_when\\_you\\_saw\\_someone\\_pick\\_on\\_the/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/q045zn/what_happened_when_you_saw_someone_pick_on_the/) >.

tired and we needed to get up early for work and daycare, so we were hurrying to unload the car and get them into bed. I ran upstairs and got the baby down in her crib. My husband was unloading and parking the car, etc.

“When I returned to get my son to put him to bed next, for reasons I can’t explain, instead of taking him upstairs, I just walked over and turned on the TV in the living room and asked him if he wanted to watch it for a while with mommy. *Peter Pan* was playing that night. (The old one with Mary Martin.) So he happily snuggled with me on the couch in the dark living room watching the show.

“My husband came in and asked me what in the world I was doing? Why had I turned on the TV when we needed to get him into bed? I really couldn’t explain my impulse and I just told him not to worry about it — I’d get him down in a little while. And we kept watching TV.

“As time went by, my husband got more and more concerned about how late it was getting and why I wouldn’t put our son to bed. He kept asking me to turn off the TV and take him upstairs. The more upset he got, the more stubborn I became about NOT taking him upstairs. I knew this made no sense as we BOTH knew he needed to go to sleep. We were usually very strict about bedtime and we were way past our son’s. Plus we rarely let the kids watch TV. So my husband was right to be upset with me as I was behaving very uncharacteristically. But in spite of his pleading with me, I just wouldn’t budge. It was baffling for me as well as my husband. It was like part of me knew he was totally right and the other part of me was helpless to explain why I was behaving so oddly and was so determined to keep him downstairs and NOT take him upstairs.

“Just as my husband started to get really frustrated with me, we heard a huge crash upstairs. We looked at each other and both ran to the stairs and saw what looked like a white cloud

roiling at the top of the stairs and starting to come down the stairs. We both thought something had happened in the baby's room, like her crib had collapsed or something large had fallen in her room. So we raced upstairs and found she was fine. Still asleep and nothing in her room was disturbed.

“But in my son's room, we saw the cloud of white dust still coming out the door. We looked inside and saw that his entire plaster ceiling had collapsed. Only wooden lath remained. And big heavy chunks of thick plaster had fallen all over his bed. It was covered. One big piece was lying on his pillow right where his head would have been had we put him to bed when we got home. He would have most likely been killed. Or very seriously injured. But instead he was downstairs watching Peter Pan and Wendy.

“To this day I can't explain why I turned on the TV or refused to put my son to bed as expected. Or why I became more and more stubborn as my husband begged me to stop the madness and get back on track. There was a very strong force in me at the time that I really couldn't override even though I knew that what I was doing made no logical sense. But whatever it was, it saved my son's life. And my husband and I were BOTH extremely thankful. Nothing like that has ever happened to me since then. My son is now 38 with two young sons of his own.”<sup>88</sup>

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<sup>88</sup> Source: MagicCooki3, “What's the creepiest/most unexplainable thing that you've ever experienced?” Reddit. AskReddit. 4 October 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/q1hpgr/whats\\_the\\_creepiestmost\\_unexplainable\\_thing\\_that/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/q1hpgr/whats_the_creepiestmost_unexplainable_thing_that/) >.

### **89. “What’s The Most Direct Way You Have Approached Or Made Known To Someone That You Wanted To Have Sex With Them (For The First Time)?”**

1) eichhoernchen wrote:

“Had a few drinks, texted the Tinder guy I was chatting rarely with for the past half a year. I asked if I could come over. One hour later we were at it like a Swat team banging on your door at 5AM.

“Over three years later and I still adore this mother—.”

2) DemonicGirlcock wrote, “Hey, I think you’re really attractive. Would you wanna maybe hook up sometime?”

3) drunkenknitter wrote, “Hey, can I buy you a drink?”

4) spekoer wrote, “I asked them outright. I knew both men for several years before propositioning them.”

5) Spiritual-Raccoon74 wrote, “After a good few drinks — ‘I’ll probably never see you again, but if you wanna have sex, I’m down.’”

6) EmpatheticBadger wrote, “I didn’t know his name at the time, but we were having a lovely conversation at the same convention and I just invited him up to my room.”<sup>89</sup>

### **90. “Teachers Of Reddit, How Did You Deal With Students Who Had A Crush On You?”**

1) sweet-q wrote, “Well, he asked me to marry him, but since he’s four I’m not picking out rings yet. I told him that he will

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<sup>89</sup> Source: thousandleeyes, “What’s the most direct way you have approached or made known to someone that you wanted to have sex with them (for the first time)?” Reddit. AskWomen. 6 October 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/q2hvav/whats\\_the\\_most\\_direct\\_way\\_you\\_have\\_approached\\_or/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/q2hvav/whats_the_most_direct_way_you_have_approached_or/) >.

meet lots of people from now until he is ready to get married and he may find someone that he likes better but he made me very happy just by asking me. I figure in 20 years or more I might look him up and say yes. I'll be needing a live-in caretaker by then.”

2) groisertuches wrote:

“I (50-year-old male) was a school bus driver once. And this eight-year-old girl was super bored. Her teacher kept nudging her to sit down sit down, behave. But kids are kids. I always had supplies in the bus. So I gave the kid some blank papers and a pen and told her to draw something.

“That worked. She sat down and started scribbling. When she got off the bus, she gave me her ‘art’ and I was in tears. Yes, I, a big-ass man bus driver, couldn’t hold it in.

“She drew a sketch of a bride in a long gown holding flowers next to a very badly depicted man. Above the man she wrote ‘mister driver,’ and above the bride she wrote her name.”<sup>90</sup>

## **91. “What Is The Strangest Compliment You Have Ever Received?”**

1) RavenNymph90 wrote, “I told a girlfriend that her voice sounded like a river. She loved the compliment.”

2) FionalboyWasTaken wrote, “Random girl passed me at the mall one time. We made eye contact for maybe a second. Then she just said, ‘Nice pants,’ and kept on walking. My roommate said she was talking about my butt, but I like to think I had some sweet pants on that day.”

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<sup>90</sup> Source: Thekingofheavens, “Teachers of reddit, how did you deal with students that had a crush on you?” Reddit. AskReddit. 8 October 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/q3w6go/teachers\\_of\\_reddit\\_how\\_did\\_you\\_deal\\_with\\_students/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/q3w6go/teachers_of_reddit_how_did_you_deal_with_students/) >.



JuRoJa commented, “Meanwhile she’s kicking herself. ‘NICE PANTS? WHO SAYS THAT?’”

\_haha\_oh\_wow\_ commented, “More people than she thinks, I bet.”

3) Mae\_Ellen wrote, “Reminds me: I was walking in a mall, and a man was walking in the opposite direction and staring at me. I must’ve given him an annoyed look. When he got past me, he yelled, quite angrily: ‘You’re beautiful!’ I guess he had to tell me why he was staring.”

andidandi commented, “I mean, to be fair I’ve seen some people who are so beautiful it makes me mad. It happens.”

Mysterious\_Fox\_8616 commented, “I remember being in a store and asking my friend if a dress I tried on looked good on me. A guy who was passing by smiled and said, ‘Yes!’ and then walked away.”

4) Klemmquat wrote, “I was washing my hands in a gas station, and this lady told me I’m very good at washing my hands. Then she leaned close and said, ‘No, really. I’m a health inspector, and I’m very impressed.’”

stopannoyingwithname commented, “Well, now your handwashing is health-inspector approved.”

5) UpstairsFance wrote:

“I was minding my own business in a New York bar. I was sleepy and yawned a lot because it was late.

“This random person whom I’d never met before approaches me and asks me a question: ‘Are you a native of Boston? You yawn the way people in Boston movies yawn.’

“I am from Boston, and he was from Norway.”

JoshSideKick commented, “How do they get the accent so wrong but the yawn so right?”

6) Delicious-Law2977 wrote, “I was told that I have nice legs by some random guy who didn’t have legs at Wal-Mart once.”

willyolio commented, “You never learn to properly appreciate something until it’s gone.”

7) Hoof\_Hearted2000 wrote:

“I was dressed as a zombie for a scare-acting job at a haunted house — full-on gore, horrendous outfit, the works.

“I scared a group of lads and then as they were walking away I heard, ‘Dude, was it just me or did that zombie have a fantastic ass?’”

8) Menolo\_Homobovanez wrote, “Someone once asked me why I laugh at nothing, and one of my friends (who is independently referred to as my interpreter) said, ‘Think about how many funny things he says. Some of those things just go unsaid, and then he laughs and we don’t know why.’”

9) SurlyJason wrote, “My Best Friend Forever introduced me to his new girlfriend as ‘the guy who would help hide the bodies.’”

Artemis829 wrote, “Good friends help you move. Great friends help you move bodies.”

10) NTMWS2854 wrote, “When my friend recently introduced me to his girlfriend, he said to me, ‘How does it feel to have just met someone who knows so much about you, whom you know so little about?’ It really warmed my heart to know he had told her all about me.”

11) stressandscreaming wrote, “I was walking to a smoke shop in the winter, so I fully wrapped my face and hair in a scarf; only my eyes were visible. When I got to the smoke shop and purchased my item, the cashier told me I was ‘the most beautiful Indian woman in the world.’ I was so

flattered. All this man could see was my eyes. I didn't have the heart to tell him I'm not Indian, I'm black. I just took the compliment and felt great all day."

12) Back2Back wrote, "Knowing that I'm a chef as a hobby, a dinner guest said (after finishing the last bite of dessert): 'Your cuisine was a *culinary triumph!*'"<sup>91</sup>

## 92. "When Did A 'Red Flag' Turn Out Not To Be A Red Flag?"

1) BerryNiceGames1 wrote, "I dated a girl who was super timid and not confrontational whatsoever. I would have to pick all the dates and everything we would do and it got super tiring. Turns out her ex-boyfriend was incredibly controlling and abusive. It kinda put things in perspective. We talked through it as soon as I found out. We aren't together anymore, but she is an incredible person and deserves so much love."

2) Dawid\_7899 wrote:

"Started dating this girl who would only talk and cry about her problems for like a week, and when she got all of that off her chest she said to me, 'Ok, I've finally talked to someone about all that. Thanks for listening. Your turn now,' and I got the past 2.5 years of trauma from bullying off my chest, and she was there for me the entire time I was talking about it. First and last time anyone has ever been that real with me. I miss her sometimes; we parted on good terms. (She was moving to Sweden with her family.)

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<sup>91</sup> Source: Deadtree301, "What is the strangest compliment you have ever received?" Reddit. AskReddit. 14 October 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/q7yv3g/what\\_is\\_the\\_strangest\\_compliment\\_you\\_have\\_ever/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/q7yv3g/what_is_the_strangest_compliment_you_have_ever/)>.

“I asked her after that, ‘How come you decided to be there when I told you all my problems, even though I listened to yours? Almost everyone I know would just walk off.’

“She and I were both really badly bullied at one point and she, like me, didn’t have anyone to support her, so she decided that she was going to be the person she needed, for other people. Since then I’ve been doing my best to do the same. Feels good, and you also start looking at the shitty past like, ‘Ok, I’m completely over that now.’”

3) JanuarySoCold wrote, “I met a guy for a blind date and asked him what he did. He said he quit his job to live with his mother. Before I could say anything, he explained that she had dementia and since he was the only single sibling he moved back home to take care of her. The other siblings contributed enough money for them to live comfortably and he provided 24-hour care for almost three years before she passed away. She had been gone for about three months and he was just getting his energy back enough to start dating again and go back to work. He was happy that she was able to stay in her own home until the end and he never regretted his choice. He was a gentle sweetheart, but he took a job out of the province. We lost touch, but I hope he found someone good.”

4) ThrowRARAw wrote, “I had an ex who used to be pretty rude to waiters. It was just subtle microaggressions, so I didn’t pick up on it at first. When I did, though, I called him out on it. He didn’t get defensive or anything, but he was a bit surprised / confused and actually reflected on himself and his behaviour. He wasn’t local and came from a country where treating wait-staff like that was very normalised. I told him we didn’t do that here. He apologised to me and, when he went to pay the bill, also apologised to the waitress and left her a tip even though tipping isn’t customary here. Never saw him be rude to wait-staff again.”

ThrowRARAw added, “I don’t want to say [the country’s name] because I don’t want to perpetuate stereotypes, but it was a country with a large lower-socio economic population and growing up his family was more on the wealthy side. I know that it wasn’t just because his family was wealthy that was the reason why he acted this way, because I am friends with many internationals also from this country who act the same way with waiters and who would be considered middle class in that country. This moment when I called him out on his behaviour happened at a restaurant with those other friends, too, and it was only because I saw his friends being much ruder than he ever was, but him laughing at their behaviour, that I realised how rude he himself was being. I whispered it to him privately that he was being a bit of a jerk in the moment, and that was when the rest of my original post happened, but there was another ‘friend’ at that table who was being exceptionally rude — fully snapping his fingers at the waitress and pointing harshly at his empty water cup — so I called him out in front of everyone but he just laughed it off. He didn’t do anything at the restaurant again that day, but I don’t think that means he changed.”

5) I\_DRINK\_ANARCHY wrote:

“I was at a small show (concert), and the music scene I’m in to has a strong straight-edge flavor. So it was unexpected when I encountered an *extremely* intoxicated young woman in the bathroom. (The venue we were at didn’t have a bar or anything.) I mean, she was a few steps away from me calling an ambulance for alcohol poisoning. A couple of us got her sat down, started getting water into her, tried to get her info. The guy she was at the show with found us and he was stone cold sober. He was also downplaying how badly drunk she was and insisted he could walk her home. So alarm bells were going off in my head, because all of those factors together screamed he was a creepy rapey dude who purposely got his date trashed.

“Thankfully, as she sort of sobered up, turns out she had brought a bottle of vodka with her and drank it entirely by herself. The guy didn’t think she was as bad as she was because at the bar they stopped at for food, he only saw her drink a beer or two, and knew nothing about all the vodka. I ended up driving them both home, because the show was in a major city and she lived only a few miles away. By the time she got to her apartment, she could talk clearly and walk without being held. I got a thank you text the next day, too. So it ended about as well as it possibly could have.”

6) Draftmoth wrote:

“I received what looked like a spam email. The title just said ‘Congratulations!’ and was from a foreign-named email address I didn’t recognize.

“Good thing I kept reading because that was the geology department head letting me know I was accepted into Notre Dame’s grad program with a full-ride scholarship. I almost deleted that letter because it looked so shady.”

7) FreeTheGingers wrote:

“When I was living on the upper west side in NYC on 50k a year, I would frequently scout out places that would sell cheap food because I was barely making enough money to pay rent and save anything at all. There was this vegetarian Indian food place a couple of blocks from my apartment building and it looked shady as hell, but someone in the neighborhood gave me a tip that the food was really good (and you could get a whole tray of it for just \$7). There were always people screaming/shouting inside, cabbies seemed to pull up and then pull away in a hurry like the place was cursed or something.

“Turns out it was a local place that was open late. Cabbies would go there, get a tray of food and watch cricket on the little TV in the back, cheering for their own teams, before

quickly piling into their cars to start the night shift. Best roti I've had to date."

8) BlintzKriegBop wrote, "When I was dating my now-husband, I was worried because he was so nice. Turns out, he's just a really nice person!"

9) SLObro152 wrote, "There was a girl who wanted to date me, but I always saw her as lethargic and too low key. She started dating someone else and I still saw her around. One day I saw her and she was happy, energetic, and seems like a cool person. Turns out she was finishing college and didn't tell anyone about it. She was just tired from working full-time and taking classes at night."<sup>92</sup>

### **93. "What Are Some Ways You've Helped Another Woman Out Of A Potentially Dangerous Situation?"**

1) gracefullrose, "I heard a man shouting at a woman, 'Go ahead, just call the police ... why don't you call them ...' so I did! He sure wasn't expecting it when the officers drove up and arrested him for the abuse."

2) Kind-Set9376 wrote, "My boyfriend and I helped out some 15-year-olds at a concert when they were being hit on by guys who were way too old for them. We were in our mid-twenties and saw guys our age touching and making the teens in front of us uncomfortable. We called them creeps super loudly and they backed off. One of the girls said thank you after."

3) blacklodgebimbo wrote:

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<sup>92</sup> Source: Divince\_Dust, "When did a 'red flag' turn out not to be a red flag?" Reddit. AskReddit. 14 October 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/q89c8r/when\\_did\\_a\\_red\\_flag\\_turn\\_out\\_not\\_to\\_be\\_a\\_red\\_flag/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/q89c8r/when_did_a_red_flag_turn_out_not_to_be_a_red_flag/) >.

“This was the first time I really experienced anything like this. I was in New York with my friends, and we were walking home from the bars. These drunk guys wouldn’t leave us alone after trying to hit on us, and a kind person came up to us and made sure we were safe. The person said, ‘I’ve been following these guys for a few blocks because they’ve been making women uncomfortable.’ The guys left, and we noticed them again pestering a girl by herself outside this restaurant. One of my friends started talking with the guys while she came over to the rest of us, and I believe my friend told the waitress / hostess about the guys and we walked the girl back to where she needed to be.

“It wasn’t just something I did, it was a collective of people looking out for the safety of women, which is something I really appreciated. There’s a strong sense of community among women that warms my heart to read in the comments and makes me feel safer knowing we have each other’s backs.”

4) cringequeenlol wrote:

“When I see something that’s concerning, I try to do my best to help girls and women. I intervene in conversations when I hear that the woman is being molested, and when I see drunken girls, I keep them company, I gave some ride home to girls that needed it. I’m not a nosy person, but I was molested several times in my teen years and at one point I had a stalker who tried to rape me one early morning. I can guarantee you that indifference hurts, so I try to do my best and help other women and people in general when I see that they are in distress / need.

“This one story is crazy. I was at a birthday party and they were trying to get a girl naked, they tried to pour freezing water on her so she would have had to undress the wet clothes. I saw this dude with the bucket. At that point she was drunk and wasted, and drunken people have some



problems with the temperature regulation; it was a cold late winter night. I went full berserker mode and emptied the bucket of water on the dude who was carrying it, we had a verbal fight and I scolded him and the other guys who wanted to get the girl naked. When I finished, my boyfriend and I kept company to the girl and made sure she wasn't alone until she got a ride from her older sister to her home. I can't wrap my head around why it's okay to humiliate and force a person to get naked? In the name of fun?"

5) aliciachiquata wrote, "Once after going out I was on the nightbus and there was me, an extremely drunk teenager and a group of men who were giving me really bad vibes. So I brought her to her house because I didn't think she should be alone with those men."

6) Elaine-Benes67 wrote, "When I was a cop / detective, if I was rostered to work the 10pm-6am shift (known as 'night wireless' in my jurisdiction), I would purposely patrol the nightclub precinct after midnight — or tell my partner to drive us there. Anytime I saw a man lingering around a woman clearly too drunk to stand up, walk, or know what was going on, I would stop the unmarked patrol car and check on her welfare. If she didn't know or recognise the guy, I would take his name and record his ID and then give him a direction to move on. On one instance a woman was lying on the footpath barely conscious and a guy was sitting next to her leering over her body. When I woke her up, she said she didn't know him and was utterly confused by his presence next to her — he was trying to get her to grab a taxi with him. I gave him a very stern direction to get in the taxi and leave by himself. He was pretty annoyed and lingered for a bit, but he eventually left after some words were had. I was able to wake her up enough to get the name of a contact in her phone I could call to come and collect her. Even though she was too drunk to realise that we had helped her,

I honestly think my partner and I prevented a rape that night.”

7) Kitteh-Kate wrote:

“Was about to drive my friend home. I was slowly approaching his house when we saw a young couple fighting, not far away. It looked harmless, but when I parked and looked in the mirror I saw the guy slap her and shove her into a trench. I said, ‘Fuck, he hit her.’ We got out of the car and sprinted back. In the meantime the girl had climbed out of the trench, she was crying and tried to get away but the guy had her wrist. So we simply got between them, and my friend (a soldier) put his arm around her shoulder and just guided her back to his house. The guy went after us, but didn’t dare to touch any of us, just threw swearwords at us and tried to convince the girl to stay.

“In the house my friend and his mom cared for the girl; she had bruises on her wrists and was crying. I asked her to give me her phone so I could contact someone to pick her up. Took me a while to get her name right with all the sobbing, but I managed to call her friend who would come to pick her up. She wasn’t surprised at all when I told her what happened. When her friend arrived, we gave her our numbers and made sure both would get in the car and away safely, because the guy was still hanging around near the house.

“A couple days later she messaged me to thank us and said she wouldn’t go to the police because she ‘had hit him, too’ and ‘he didn’t mean it.’”

8) doctornowzaradan wrote, “We saw a young woman (around early 20s max) outside of the club. All her friends left her there. Mind you, I lived in a small town and the club was in an industrial area so walking to public transportation meant walking alone for quite some time. We called her a

taxi because her phone didn't have any battery, and we waited until she left safely.”

9) starrynight skyline wrote:

“Drunk and most likely high girl came up to me asking for help at a basement party. Told me a guy wouldn't stop bothering her and she'd gotten separated from her group. Immediately placed her between myself and the makeshift bar. Let my friends know she was our new best friend and to keep an eye out for creepy dude.

“The guy eventually did come over, and I just kept physically blocking him and moving her. He was tall and able to poke her shoulder while saying something I don't remember. Eventually her friends found us and thanked me for taking care of her.”<sup>93</sup>

#### **94. “What Is The Stupidest Thing You Believed When You Were Child?”**

1) danipim wrote:

“Once I was playing with some toys and my mom was talking on the phone to her friend. I guess they were talking about kids growing up and having families some day because my mom puts her hand over the phone and asked me if I wanted kids some day and if I wanted boys or girls.

“I gave it some thought and said that I wanted one boy and one girl. For the longest time after this, I thought that it had been completely decided, like my mom was just on the

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<sup>93</sup> Source: Legal-County548, “What are some ways you've helped another woman out of a potentially dangerous situation?” Reddit. AskWomen. 14 October 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/q8ckwu/what\\_are\\_so\\_me\\_ways\\_youve\\_helped\\_another\\_woman\\_out/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/q8ckwu/what_are_so_me_ways_youve_helped_another_woman_out/) >.

phone with whoever you call to place an order for kids, and my order had been finalized.”

2) PoopieFaceTomatoNose wrote, “I knew that babies came from the normal way, but I thought it was a procedure that a doctor had to do.”

3) NootTheNoot wrote:

“I had a real weird one — I read a biology book for kids where in one part they explained how babies were made, and the sperm and the egg and all that. The picture accompanying that was a mother and father sitting on a couch together, presumably explaining this process to their kids.

“But I got confused and thought the picture had something to do with the process, so for a little while I thought that you only had to sit on a couch next to someone to get pregnant, and that the sperm must jump from the father to the mother like a flea.

“Of course, you had to be married first to unlock the ability to get pregnant.”

4) elementsofridiculous wrote, “My mom and I would fight over the peach juice left in canned peaches. She told me drinking peach juice would give me more freckles and from them on, the juice was hers.”<sup>94</sup>

## 95. “When Does Your Partner Look The Sexiest?”

1) curly-hair07 wrote:

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<sup>94</sup> Source: gartering00xe, “What is the stupidest thing you believed when you were child?” Reddit. AskReddit. 16 October 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/q99v7k/what\\_is\\_the\\_stupidest\\_thing\\_you\\_believed\\_when\\_you/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/q99v7k/what_is_the_stupidest_thing_you_believed_when_you/) >.

“Honestly, when I’m riding on top of him and I ask him to look into my eyes right before his euphoric moment.

“A little TMI [Too Much Information]. A little cringe to share. But hands down sexy.”

Equivalent-Pen3762 commented, “My partner isn’t particularly vocal so if there’s an involuntary moan / grunt / hum, etc. when he goes, I IMMEDIATELY get off in that moment. Hahaha. His normal is usually pretty passionate and there’s always eye contact, BUT if he closes his eyes, slightly tilts his head back, and lets out vocally in that second, I can tell it was a really intense one for him. Definitely a power trip seeing a big man get a bit weak in the knees. xD”

Lance990 commented:

“The sex is something else when the passion is fueled by the deepest trust.

“And it is fucking primal.”

jgraz22 commented, “Trust and thrust.”

2) jkaelol wrote, “He takes off his glasses almost always only when he’s naked (sex, sleeping, or showering) so even if he’s just taking them off just to clean them, it’s like a Pavlov bell.”

tvbookpastaworm commented, “Mine is the same. In my head I think of it as his Clark Kent / Superman mode. That said, it also works when he gets naked to go to bed and forgets to take his glasses off. Then I’ve got Clark in bed. :)”

3) goodnamesalreadygone wrote, “I used to love staring at my late husband when he was asleep. For some reason, knowing that he chose to be there with me, and the level of trust he placed in me to fall asleep next to me every single night, was overwhelming at times. He was strong physically,

but his vulnerability, and his trust in me to show it, was what made me fall in love with him over and over for 25 years.”

hanzosrightnipple commented, “This is so incredibly sweet. I teared up after reading this because my girlfriend is currently lying next to me, all curled up and sleeping. She’s the most amazing woman I know and I feel so overwhelmed realizing how special it is that she trusts me enough to sleep next to me. Today she doesn’t feel good and asked me to relax in bed with her, and I am just so touched that she needed me here so she could sleep it off. I’m so sorry for your loss.”

4) idkmanwhyyouaskingme wrote:

“When he’s in the middle of getting dressed but then he gets distracted so he’s just walking around with his pants undone, underwear showing. :)”

“Absolutely eye candy.”

Damn\_Rich\_People commented, “Preach!”

5) Inside\_Principle\_498 wrote, “Just out of the shower with a towel around his waist!”

Minorihaaku commented, “Give me wet hair, wet beard, towel-only boyfriend anytime.”

6) Jonseroo wrote:

“I am a toothy and not particularly attractive man.

“But I met a woman who asked me to put up curtain rails in every room in her new house. When I got there, I found out that she had invited friends over like it was a party, and these three women followed me from room to room, sitting with wine and snacks and just watching me work. It was super awkward and I refused the £20 offered payment just so none of them would ask me to do it again.

“It’s one of only two times in my life when women have been interested in me en masse. The other time was when I was walking through town with a mop and cleaning supplies. Women looked at me then like I was covered in kittens.”<sup>95</sup>

### **96. “Those Of You Who Only Have Come Really Close To Cheating On Your Partner But Then Didn’t, What Happened?”**

icescream118 wrote, “I thought I did cheat, which is wildly out of character for me. I went to confess to him the very next day, and (at his request) I told him exactly what happened with every single detail. He collapsed on the floor and sobbed intensely for about five minutes, while I sat and cried with guilt and shame, and tried to comfort him. That’s the worst I’ve ever felt in my life because I loved him so much and he didn’t deserve it. When he finally managed to pull it together, he gently informed me that I did not cheat because I was raped. That’s why he was so upset. He said, ‘That’s an even worse thing to happen,’ and then he took me to see a doctor. Does that count as an almost cheat?”

CuteSweetNSassy commented:

“Oh, my goodness. I hope you are doing okay. That is a hell of a partner you have there. I’m so glad he was there for you, and he was able to recognize what happened to you when you weren’t for yourself.

“So to answer your question. No, it does not count as an almost cheat. You were assaulted.”

icescream118 responded, “Thank you. It took me a long time to come to terms with the fact that it was assault. I thought I

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<sup>95</sup> Source: DrinkMe\_Responsibly, “When does your partner look the sexiest?” Reddit. AskWomen. 17 October 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/q9wyk9/when\\_does\\_your\\_partner\\_look\\_the\\_sexiest/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/q9wyk9/when_does_your_partner_look_the_sexiest/) >.

was to blame and I even accused my partner of being in denial, when clearly it was me who was in denial. I still wouldn't stop crying and apologizing after a few weeks, so he took me to see a psychologist to help me understand that it wasn't my fault, and so I could work through it. He took me to every single one of my appointments and waited outside for me to be finished, every week for over six months. He genuinely was the best partner ever and I was so lucky. Not many guys would be that supportive and I wasn't used to that. Our relationship ended on good terms because he wanted to move to pursue his career, but I will always be grateful to him and look back on our relationship fondly. Because of him, I am very much okay."

2) dependswho wrote, "I had been cheated on. I met someone and felt an insane instant 'click.' But he was married and I refused to put another human being through the pain I had been through. I would not even hug him goodbye. It took everything I had, but if that marriage ends it won't be because of me."

3) BustyElephants wrote:

"Honestly, last-minute sense just kicked in.

"I was away for a work thing for six weeks, and I had to work for only four days in the fourth week. I was completely free the rest of the time, other than just *being there*. Met a dude on the same project, but he was from the Qatar branch, South African dude. Bonded over time.

"Little to no 'romantic' connection, but I have never been as sexually attracted to someone as much as him. Understood finally why cheating often happens: mind-melting lust.

"Laid down rules and boundaries for myself to abide by, said 'fuck it' to a lot of them. My brain kicked in and started providing all types of shitty excuses: You only live once, monogamy isn't natural so don't force yourself into that box,



he's (husband is) probably cheating on you right now so why should you remain 'faithful' and get humiliated, he's literally never gonna find out so be an idealistic child about it, negatives of husband, and in general, the guy looked fucking amazing.

"Kept myself in check up until we had our share of work finished and the last two weeks were completely tension free, and that's when crap started happening.

"The idea of going to work again, the monotony, became a reality. He felt like a fantastical escape. Last two weeks spent in pissing around with him the entire day, and furiously masturbating to thoughts of him, when I was in my room.

"The slip up came on the day before I was supposed to leave. Almost kissed but guilt and sobriety kicked in at the last moment so I went back to my room (we were in his room), and he was super respectful and understanding about it."

seeseecinnamon asked, "Can I ask you how you feel about it now? You don't need to answer if you're not comfortable."

BustyElephants answered:

"Eh, I'm very *C'est la vie* about it. I think the major lesson learnt was that instead of hoping that my morality would be the Deix Ex-machina next time around, I'm just not gonna put myself in such a situation again, if avoidance is possible.

"I think the biggest thing was the realization that cheaters (those who cheated in long-term relationships) aren't necessarily 'evil,' and there's a lot of grey area that people tend to ignore.

"I enjoyed the time I spent with him, and on occasions, I do wonder if I should have gone forth with the fantasy my mind drew up for me, but I do not actively wish it, by any means, and I am thankful for my conscience, which saved me."

Nanako-chan asked, “I really loved the phrase ‘mind-melting lust.’ If you’re comfortable answering, the thought of possibly cheating ever made you feel guilty, even though you didn’t actually cheated?”

BustyElephants answered:

“Not anymore, no.

“For the first few months after that, it was streaks of crushing guilt, followed by ‘Oh, it happens to everyone, don’t be so harsh on yourself,’ and then, rinse and repeat.

My husband actually had an affair for five months last year, so currently, I’m pretty guilt-free. Lol.”<sup>96</sup>

### **97. “Women Of Reddit, What Instantly Turns You On About Men And Why?”**

1) SluttyNeighborGal wrote, “I like a laid-back funny man.”

4d6DropLowest commented, “I’m funny. I can lie on my back.”

waltonky commented, “I look funny and can recline. Final offer.”

2) turbomama16 wrote, “Humor and manners. Say thanks to the drive-thru cashier and I’m in love ... make me laugh and I’m committed forever!”

JshWright asked, “Is that a thing people don’t do? Do they just not say anything?”

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<sup>96</sup> Source: PacificSucculent, “Those of you that have come really close to cheating on your partner but then didn’t, what happened?” Reddit. AskWomen. 18 October 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/qa6dm1/those\\_of\\_you\\_that\\_have\\_come\\_really\\_close\\_to/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/qa6dm1/those_of_you_that_have_come_really_close_to/) >.

turbomama16 replied, “Yes! It wasn’t a date, it was my friend’s boyfriend ordering for us. We pull up, he (the driver obviously) orders, she gives us the total and he just drives away and to the window. NEVER said thank you even when they handed our food to us. Thought it was a one off, went out to dinner, sit down restaurant, same thing. Not a single thank you. He’s long gone out of our lives, but it has stuck with me. So now when I hear a man say please and / or thank you, especially for a little thing, instant turn on.”

3) Rilakkumar wrote, “The ability to explain something without being pretentious about it. Current boyfriend minored in theoretical mathematics, and he explains math theorems to me when they’re relevant. I love learning things from people and find it very attractive.”

TingleKitchen commented, “Read that as theatrical mathematics and my brain went on a weird tangent.”

Cialis-in-Wonderland commented, “Shakespeare’s less famous work, *Mathbeth*.”

4) Lunallance wrote, “Humour. My boyfriend made me laugh non-stop on our first date and I melted pretty fast.”

panicswing commented, “I heard I’m funny tasting. Oh wait.”

joggyhead93 commented:

“Licks your elbow.

“Says, ‘Hmmm. This taste ... humorous.’”

5) ashamedprotein wrote, “Does it count if girls usually laugh when your pants come off? Asking for a friend.”

tofu\_b3a5t commented, “Hey, it may be only three inches, but it smells more like a foot.”

dos8s commented, “It’s nine inches, in three easy installments.”

YouGiveDovesABadName commented, “Funny guys are dangerous. You go from laughing at his jokes to moaning at his strokes in no time.”

6) needmorecheese wrote, “Genuine kindness and interest in your thoughts, opinions, hobbies.”

7) QueenBeeB1980 wrote:

“On a physical level, men’s forearms, calves, and the back and sides of their neck. But I react pretty strongly to guys with good manners (holding doors, please and thank you’s) nuzzling babies and loving on animals. Especially when they don’t realize anyone’s watching. Pretty cliché, I guess.

“Edit to add: Scent is probably the single biggest instant turn on for me.”

8) new-wholesome wrote:

“I like men with whom I can have discussions without anyone getting angry. For some reason people who can challenge me intellectually make me feel horny.

“Edit: I just spent some time googling the meaning of sapiosexual. I feel so understood right now. I get why I never really liked anyone when I was a teen. No one would have discussions or debates with me, and if they would, it would often end with the other person becoming angry. Could this also be the reason I don’t care if someone is male or female? I think I’m a bisexual sapiosexual?”<sup>97</sup>

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<sup>97</sup> Source: Pink0612152504, “Women of reddit, what instantly turns you on about men and why?” Reddit. AskReddit. 18 October 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/qatcwt/women\\_of\\_reddit\\_what\\_instantly\\_turns\\_you\\_on\\_about/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/qatcwt/women_of_reddit_what_instantly_turns_you_on_about/) >.

### **98. “Attractive People Of Reddit: How Does Your Attractiveness Affect Your Daily Life? Is There Any Downside?”**

1) anon\_5474 wrote, “Definitely is a downside. You get hit on by weird old people or get hit on when in the most random places where it’s literally annoying. ‘No, sir, I’m not gonna roll down my window and give you my number. We’re at a stoplight and you have no teeth.’”

2) Sweetpurrr wrote, “Yes, almost everywhere I go I get stared at, and I’m always that «pretty» girl. I get a lot of compliments, and it’s honestly very uncomfortable. Of course it’s nice to hear sometimes, but when my patients compliment me a lot, it’s uncomfortable. I’m a nurse, by the way.”

3) Backwoods-Babe wrote, “No. I like being attractive.”

4) Ok\_Substance\_1560 wrote, “The downside to being attractive is that people typically want to be around you, even if you don’t want them around. I’m dead serious. You also get a lot of unwanted attention. I say this as a man.”<sup>98</sup>

### **99. “If You’re Not Very Conventionally Attractive, How Do You Cope With Not Being Conventionally Attractive?”**

1) majain wrote, “You’re not ugly, you’re just poor.”

Note by David Bruce: There’s a lot of truth here. If you have money, you can get your teeth fixed.

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<sup>98</sup> Source: DungeonMaster24, “Attractive people of Reddit: How does your attractiveness affect your daily life? Is there any downside?” Reddit. AskReddit. 20 October 2021 <[https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/qc00xk/attractive\\_people\\_of\\_reddit\\_how\\_does\\_your/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/qc00xk/attractive_people_of_reddit_how_does_your/)>.

ImCallingPapa commented, “This. All the way. Money fixes all looks, no matter how bad.”

sassy\_immigrant wrote, “You hit the spot! If I had time, energy, and money to be fit and healthier, I would be 100% more attractive. I would work on my personality as well.”

AALIYAH1111 commented, “You can be poor and take care of yourself. I’ve made my own skincare from regular food items at home and I’d say I don’t look that bad. Lol. Yoga is free, walking, running is free. That all contributes to your looks. And it’s free.”

2) Niedzwetzkyane wrote, “No need to cope, there’s a lot more to life than being attractive. When I was young and still pretty hung up on that, I had a realization that there were tons of people who were empirically uglier than me but who were having better sex, in better relationships, getting better jobs, and all the other things I was worried I wasn’t attractive enough to accomplish, and the biggest issue is that being insecure was getting in my own way. Is being attractive easier in a lot of ways? Sure, but it’s not everything. The less you obsess over it, the less impact it has on your life.”

3) CarrotCake\_\_xx wrote:

“Work on really changing your perspective of what ‘beauty’ really means. You’ll find ways to see beautiful pieces of yourself and broaden your thoughts on what is attractive. You don’t dictate what others find attractive, so in the very least you can learn what to be proud of about yourself. Looks are commercially marketed to us, but not everyone aligns with societal norms as far as attraction.”

Remarkable-Dot-2539 commented, “The best portrait paintings and art pieces aren’t of perfect-looking people; they’re of people with interesting features and characteristics. Portrait art is something that helped me realise this and helped me with my confidence massively.”

4) Gwerch wrote, "I just got more attractive by losing a lot of weight. Honestly at my age when you're not overweight and take a bit of care of yourself, you're instantly in the top 20% of attractiveness."

5) daydreaming-g wrote, "Honestly I'm really ugly. I have never been approached by anyone, and my mom doesn't even call me pretty but does call my sisters pretty. But honestly I don't feel ugly. I never cared about appearance or the beauty standard. I don't wear makeup and I do wear clothes I like, not what is in fashion. Since I was young, I have had this attitude. I don't know how I got it."

6) ImCallingPapa wrote, "I imagine myself as a floating entity through the cosmos and I feel better."

7) Sassy-Starfish wrote, "Avoid mirrors."

8) babygrappler wrote, "Being kinda funny and smart."

9) NeighborEnough15 wrote, "I don't. I hide in my room and drown in books and tv shows."

10) 77pearl wrote, "Develop a big personality and learn to cook."

11) QwithoutU1982 wrote, "Working out, eating well, getting enough sleep, putting a moderate amount of effort into my presentation."

12) vpetmad wrote, "I cry a lot but mostly I just try and ignore it. It's usually easy to ignore unless I have a crush on someone, then it's obviously on my mind."

13) Mystery-Peach-1009 wrote, "I'm not very attractive, I'm average. Sure, there are times I wish I were prettier, especially since looks are heavily valued among women in society and that is exactly the reason why I'm genuinely happy to be average. It all sounds like a headache to be considered more valuable just because I'm pretty if I'm

being honest. Sure, some women do get ahead in life because they use their looks to advantage and I applaud them for that but it's possible to get far as a woman even though it might be harder. I simply don't want the attention and am scared that people won't be able to see past my looks if I was extremely attractive. I want to be taken seriously. There's more to life than your appearance, and there is more to a woman than her looks."

14) Amazingly-bored wrote, "I don't worry about it."

15) BerriesAndMe wrote:

"I don't give two cents about my looks.

"I used to hate my big nose, my full figure, my short stubby sausage-fingers, my splodgy skin, my rubbing thighs, my small breasts and at some point I realised it just doesn't matter. There's nothing I can't do because I'm ugly. Not in school obviously, because kids would call me Godzilla and made retching noises when they saw me. Fun times.

"Nowadays I could definitely look better: Wear well-fitting clothes, put on make-up, do SOMETHING with my hair. I could also throw money at the problem: get liposuction, plastic surgery, expensive clothes, etc.), but I realised having a small nose or thinner thighs wouldn't make me happier. If I remove the worst offender, I would still be upset about the second worst offender and the list is essentially infinite. I would just be in debt, too.

"So I looked for a different solution and realised that I defined myself way too much over my looks. In my thoughts I was the ugly, insecure girl and my secret hope had been that if I could make the ugly go away, the insecure girl would leave too.

"Instead I looked at what else am I besides the ugly insecure girl? What are positive things about me. It could be anything,



maybe you're creative, or are a great singer or super kind. In a first instance I settled on smart. so I morphed into the smart, socially awkward girl for a while. I was still unhappy with who I was, I didn't want to be socially awkward and insecure. But because I was no longer being held back by 'being too ugly,' I actually got out more, I did more things and slowly became comfortable with being around people. Also at some point I didn't feel like a girl anymore. (I was in my 30s.) So I looked again and started to see all the things I've done and overcome, all the positives I could never see because I was too focused on my looks.

"Nowadays, I see myself as a strong and independent woman, I've done some amazing things and had amazing adventures. I'm happy and I still look the same (ok, no. I look a lot older) as the insecure, ugly girl.

"I don't have to cope anymore because I genuinely don't care about how I look. I'm defined by the adventures I've had, the joy I've experienced, and the happiness I hold in me.

"(I should probably care a little more about my looks, as fitting clothes and a consistent hair style would be a huge improvement with very little effort, but I can't be bothered.)"<sup>99</sup>

## **100. "What Is The Nastiest Thing You've Ever Done With Your SO [Significant Other]?"**

1) Zoeyviolet wrote:

"My husband was diagnosed with brain cancer last year. (He's now in remission!) He had a really hard time with

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<sup>99</sup> Source: Consistent\_Two2067, "If you're not very attractive, how do you cope with not being attractive?" Reddit. AskWomen. < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/qbsekf/if\\_youre\\_not\\_very\\_attractive\\_how\\_do\\_you\\_cope\\_with/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/qbsekf/if_youre_not_very_attractive_how_do_you_cope_with/)>.

chemo and would get so dizzy he couldn't even take a shower, so I ended up helping him bathe almost every time.

“Once, I helped him take a bath right after dinner (bad idea). He ended up getting really sick and while I was washing his legs, he threw up all over my arm and back. He felt really bad so I was reassuring him, but unfortunately I almost always throw up when I see other people puke, so I ended up puking all over his legs.

“He was a good sport about it, though, and we ended up laughing to the point of tears over the sight of him in a bathtub full of a mixture of our puke. I never realized how much I could love someone until I was scrubbing his puke off my back without even being upset.”

2) SmellzLiek wrote:

“Several years ago, my wife was very sick due to complications during pregnancy and went septic. She almost died and most of her organs failed (heart, liver, kidneys, gastrointestinal). Due to this, specifically gastro, she had trouble eating. So of course I did what any good husband does and took my ‘healthy’ poop and gave it to the doctor to have it put in my wife to heal her colon. Poop transplant — yep, it's a thing!

“Edit: To add to this, her father outdid me by actually donating his kidney to save her life.”

MacabreAngel commented, “She can never say you didn't give a shit.”

3) Billbapoker wrote:

“She dropped her engagement ring in the toilet. I don't know how.

“She apparently tried to fish it out, but the contents of the toilet made her sick so ....

“I had to fish it out blind, with my hands when all else failed, from a bowl full of her puke and poop.”

Cringe-but-true commented, “Dude. Next time you have to fish something nasty out of water, wrap a plastic bag or two around your hand. Bonus points if you use a strong one. It’ll put both a water and textile barrier between you and it.”

Billbapoker replied, “You are far smarter than me.”

4) OddBoxShop wrote, “Not my story but one my grandmother would tell occasionally ... my grandparents and some other German immigrant friends had cabins in Wisconsin where they would vacation and consume large amounts of alcohol. One particular morning, my grandmother recalled seeing her friend fishing for his wife’s dentures in a toilet full of vomit.”

5) Noki\_bear wrote, “My wife had complications from giving birth, so all her nether parts got too swollen to pee. I had to thread a catheter for six weeks a few times daily for her to urinate. Fifteen years together strong. :)”

6) usernamesBstressful wrote, “I accidentally farted while he was going down on me, but it was my birthday so he laughed and didn’t stop. Love that man.”<sup>100</sup>

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<sup>100</sup> Source: guccinapkin, “What is the nastiest thing you’ve ever done with your SO?” Reddit. AskReddit. 22 October 2021 < [https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/qdjm2p/what\\_is\\_the\\_nastiest\\_thing\\_youve\\_ever\\_done\\_with/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/qdjm2p/what_is_the_nastiest_thing_youve_ever_done_with/) >.

## APPENDIX A: FAIR USE

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I assume these things:

Everyone wants Good Samaritans to get credit for their good deeds, and this book about Good Samaritans is a good way to do that.

People who post on Imgur and Reddit or write letters to the editors want to share their information with the world.

Credit must be given where credit is due. I definitely try to do this.

I must not make money from this book.

Light editing is OK for such things as Imgur posts, Reddit posts, and letters to the editor. I see nothing wrong with correcting an obvious misspelling.

## APPENDIX B: ABOUT THE AUTHOR

It was a dark and stormy night. Suddenly a cry rang out, and on a hot summer night in 1954, Josephine, wife of Carl Bruce, gave birth to a boy — me. Unfortunately, this young married couple allowed Reuben Saturday, Josephine’s brother, to name their first-born. Reuben, aka “The Joker,” decided that Bruce was a nice name, so he decided to name me Bruce Bruce. I have gone by my middle name — David — ever since.

Being named Bruce David Bruce hasn’t been all bad. Bank tellers remember me very quickly, so I don’t often have to show an ID. It can be fun in charades, also. When I was a counselor as a teenager at Camp Echoing Hills in Warsaw, Ohio, a fellow counselor gave the signs for “sounds like” and “two words,” then she pointed to a bruise on her leg twice. Bruise Bruise? Oh yeah, Bruce Bruce is the answer!

Uncle Reuben, by the way, gave me a haircut when I was in kindergarten. He cut my hair short and shaved a small bald spot on the back of my head. My mother wouldn’t let me go to school until the bald spot grew out again.

Of all my brothers and sisters (six in all), I am the only transplant to Athens, Ohio. I was born in Newark, Ohio, and have lived all around Southeastern Ohio. However, I moved to Athens to go to Ohio University and have never left.

At Ohio U, I never could make up my mind whether to major in English or Philosophy, so I got a bachelor’s degree with a double major in both areas, then I added a Master of Arts degree in English and a Master of Arts degree in Philosophy. Yes, I have my MAMA degree.

Currently, and for a long time to come (I eat fruits and veggies), I am spending my retirement writing books such as *Nadia Comaneci: Perfect 10*, *The Funniest People in Comedy*, *Homer’s Iliad: A Retelling in Prose*, and *William Shakespeare’s Hamlet: A Retelling in Prose*.

By the way, my sister Brenda Kennedy writes romances such as *A New Beginning* and *Shattered Dreams*.

## APPENDIX C: SOME BOOKS BY DAVID BRUCE

### Retellings of a Classic Work of Literature

*Ben Jonson's The Alchemist: A Retelling*

*Ben Jonson's Bartholomew Fair: A Retelling*

*Ben Jonson's The Case is Altered: A Retelling*

*Ben Jonson's Catiline's Conspiracy: A Retelling*

*Ben Jonson's The Devil is an Ass: A Retelling*

*Ben Jonson's Epicene: A Retelling*

*Ben Jonson's Every Man in His Humor: A Retelling*

*Ben Jonson's The New Inn: A Retelling*

*Ben Jonson's The Staple of News: A Retelling*

*Ben Jonson's Volpone, or the Fox: A Retelling*

*Christopher Marlowe's Complete Plays: Retellings*

*Christopher Marlowe's Dido, Queen of Carthage: A Retelling*

*Christopher Marlowe's Doctor Faustus: Retellings of the 1604 A-Text and of the 1616 B-Text*

*Christopher Marlowe's Edward II: A Retelling*

*Christopher Marlowe's The Massacre at Paris: A Retelling*

*Christopher Marlowe's The Rich Jew of Malta: A Retelling*

*Christopher Marlowe's Tamburlaine, Parts 1 and 2: Retellings*

*Dante's Divine Comedy: A Retelling in Prose*

*Dante's Inferno: A Retelling in Prose*

*Dante's Purgatory: A Retelling in Prose*

*Dante's Paradise: A Retelling in Prose*

*The Famous Victories of Henry V: A Retelling*

*From the Iliad to the Odyssey: A Retelling in Prose of Quintus of Smyrna's Posthomerica*

*George Peele: Five Plays Retold in Modern English*

*George Peele's The Arraignment of Paris: A Retelling*

*George Peele's The Battle of Alcazar: A Retelling*

*George's Peele's David and Bathsheba, and the Tragedy of Absalom: A Retelling*

*George Peele's The Old Wives' Tale: A Retelling*

*George-A-Greene, The Pinner of Wakefield: A Retelling*

*The History of King Leir: A Retelling*

*Homer's Iliad: A Retelling in Prose*

*Homer's Odyssey: A Retelling in Prose*

*Jason and the Argonauts: A Retelling in Prose of Apollonius of Rhodes' Argonautica*

*The Jests of George Peele: A Retelling*

*John Ford: Eight Plays Translated into Modern English*

*John Ford's The Broken Heart: A Retelling*

*John Ford's The Fancies, Chaste and Noble: A Retelling*

*John Ford's The Lady's Trial: A Retelling*

*John Ford's The Lover's Melancholy: A Retelling*

*John Ford's Love's Sacrifice: A Retelling*

*John Ford's Perkin Warbeck: A Retelling*

*John Ford's The Queen: A Retelling*

*John Ford's 'Tis Pity She's a Whore: A Retelling*

*John Webster's The White Devil: A Retelling*

*King Edward III: A Retelling*

*The Merry Devil of Edmonton: A Retelling*



*Robert Greene's Friar Bacon and Friar Bungay: A Retelling*

*The Taming of a Shrew: A Retelling*

*Tarlton's Jests: A Retelling*

*The Trojan War and Its Aftermath: Four Ancient Epic Poems*

*Virgil's Aeneid: A Retelling in Prose*

*William Shakespeare's 5 Late Romances: Retellings in Prose*

*William Shakespeare's 10 Histories: Retellings in Prose*

*William Shakespeare's 11 Tragedies: Retellings in Prose*

*William Shakespeare's 12 Comedies: Retellings in Prose*

*William Shakespeare's 38 Plays: Retellings in Prose*

*William Shakespeare's 1 Henry IV, aka Henry IV, Part 1: A Retelling in Prose*

*William Shakespeare's 2 Henry IV, aka Henry IV, Part 2: A Retelling in Prose*

*William Shakespeare's 1 Henry VI, aka Henry VI, Part 1: A Retelling in Prose*

*William Shakespeare's 2 Henry VI, aka Henry VI, Part 2: A Retelling in Prose*

*William Shakespeare's 3 Henry VI, aka Henry VI, Part 3: A Retelling in Prose*

*William Shakespeare's All's Well that Ends Well: A Retelling in Prose*

*William Shakespeare's Antony and Cleopatra: A Retelling in Prose*

*William Shakespeare's As You Like It: A Retelling in Prose*

*William Shakespeare's The Comedy of Errors: A Retelling in Prose*

*William Shakespeare's Coriolanus: A Retelling in Prose*

*William Shakespeare's Cymbeline: A Retelling in Prose*

*William Shakespeare's Hamlet: A Retelling in Prose*

*William Shakespeare's Henry V: A Retelling in Prose*

- William Shakespeare's Henry VIII: A Retelling in Prose*
- William Shakespeare's Julius Caesar: A Retelling in Prose*
- William Shakespeare's King John: A Retelling in Prose*
- William Shakespeare's King Lear: A Retelling in Prose*
- William Shakespeare's Love's Labor's Lost: A Retelling in Prose*
- William Shakespeare's Macbeth: A Retelling in Prose*
- William Shakespeare's Measure for Measure: A Retelling in Prose*
- William Shakespeare's The Merchant of Venice: A Retelling in Prose*
- William Shakespeare's The Merry Wives of Windsor: A Retelling in Prose*
- William Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream: A Retelling in Prose*
- William Shakespeare's Much Ado About Nothing: A Retelling in Prose*
- William Shakespeare's Othello: A Retelling in Prose*
- William Shakespeare's Pericles, Prince of Tyre: A Retelling in Prose*
- William Shakespeare's Richard II: A Retelling in Prose*
- William Shakespeare's Richard III: A Retelling in Prose*
- William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet: A Retelling in Prose*
- William Shakespeare's The Taming of the Shrew: A Retelling in Prose*
- William Shakespeare's The Tempest: A Retelling in Prose*
- William Shakespeare's Timon of Athens: A Retelling in Prose*
- William Shakespeare's Titus Andronicus: A Retelling in Prose*
- William Shakespeare's Troilus and Cressida: A Retelling in Prose*
- William Shakespeare's Twelfth Night: A Retelling in Prose*
- William Shakespeare's The Two Gentlemen of Verona: A Retelling in Prose*
- William Shakespeare's The Two Noble Kinsmen: A Retelling in Prose*

*William Shakespeare's The Winter's Tale: A Retelling in Prose*

### **Other Fiction**

*Candide's Two Girlfriends (Adult)*

*Honey Badger Goes to Hell — and Heaven*

*I Want to Die — Or Fight Back*

*The Erotic Adventures of Candide (Adult)*

### **Children's Biography**

*Nadia Comaneci: Perfect Ten*

### **Personal Finance**

*How to Manage Your Money: A Guide for the Non-Rich*

### **Anecdote Collections**

*250 Anecdotes About Opera*

*250 Anecdotes About Religion*

*250 Anecdotes About Religion: Volume 2*

*250 Music Anecdotes*

*Be a Work of Art: 250 Anecdotes and Stories*

*The Coolest People in Art: 250 Anecdotes*

*The Coolest People in the Arts: 250 Anecdotes*

*The Coolest People in Books: 250 Anecdotes*

*The Coolest People in Comedy: 250 Anecdotes*

*Create, Then Take a Break: 250 Anecdotes*

*Don't Fear the Reaper: 250 Anecdotes*

*The Funniest People in Art: 250 Anecdotes*

*The Funniest People in Books: 250 Anecdotes*

*The Funniest People in Books, Volume 2: 250 Anecdotes*

*The Funniest People in Books, Volume 3: 250 Anecdotes*

- The Funniest People in Comedy: 250 Anecdotes*
- The Funniest People in Dance: 250 Anecdotes*
- The Funniest People in Families: 250 Anecdotes*
- The Funniest People in Families, Volume 2: 250 Anecdotes*
- The Funniest People in Families, Volume 3: 250 Anecdotes*
- The Funniest People in Families, Volume 4: 250 Anecdotes*
- The Funniest People in Families, Volume 5: 250 Anecdotes*
- The Funniest People in Families, Volume 6: 250 Anecdotes*
- The Funniest People in Movies: 250 Anecdotes*
- The Funniest People in Music: 250 Anecdotes*
- The Funniest People in Music, Volume 2: 250 Anecdotes*
- The Funniest People in Music, Volume 3: 250 Anecdotes*
- The Funniest People in Neighborhoods: 250 Anecdotes*
- The Funniest People in Relationships: 250 Anecdotes*
- The Funniest People in Sports: 250 Anecdotes*
- The Funniest People in Sports, Volume 2: 250 Anecdotes*
- The Funniest People in Television and Radio: 250 Anecdotes*
- The Funniest People in Theater: 250 Anecdotes*
- The Funniest People Who Live Life: 250 Anecdotes*
- The Funniest People Who Live Life, Volume 2: 250 Anecdotes*
- The Kindest People Who Do Good Deeds, Volume 1: 250 Anecdotes*
- The Kindest People Who Do Good Deeds, Volume 2: 250 Anecdotes*
- Maximum Cool: 250 Anecdotes*
- The Most Interesting People in Movies: 250 Anecdotes*
- The Most Interesting People in Politics and History: 250 Anecdotes*

*The Most Interesting People in Politics and History, Volume 2: 250 Anecdotes*

*The Most Interesting People in Politics and History, Volume 3: 250 Anecdotes*

*The Most Interesting People in Religion: 250 Anecdotes*

*The Most Interesting People in Sports: 250 Anecdotes*

*The Most Interesting People Who Live Life: 250 Anecdotes*

*The Most Interesting People Who Live Life, Volume 2: 250 Anecdotes*

*Reality is Fabulous: 250 Anecdotes and Stories*

*Resist Psychic Death: 250 Anecdotes*

*Seize the Day: 250 Anecdotes and Stories*

### **Discussion Guide Series**

*Dante's Inferno: A Discussion Guide*

*Dante's Paradise: A Discussion Guide*

*Dante's Purgatory: A Discussion Guide*

*Forrest Carter's The Education of Little Tree: A Discussion Guide*

*Homer's Iliad: A Discussion Guide*

*Homer's Odyssey: A Discussion Guide*

*Jane Austen's Pride and Prejudice: A Discussion Guide*

*Jerry Spinelli's Maniac Magee: A Discussion Guide*

*Jerry Spinelli's Stargirl: A Discussion Guide*

*Jonathan Swift's "A Modest Proposal": A Discussion Guide*

*Lloyd Alexander's The Black Cauldron: A Discussion Guide*

*Lloyd Alexander's The Book of Three: A Discussion Guide*

*Mark Twain's Adventures of Huckleberry Finn: A Discussion Guide*

*Mark Twain's The Adventures of Tom Sawyer: A Discussion Guide*

*Mark Twain's A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court: A*

*Discussion Guide*

*Mark Twain's The Prince and the Pauper: A Discussion Guide*

*Nancy Garden's Annie on My Mind: A Discussion Guide*

*Nicholas Sparks' A Walk to Remember: A Discussion Guide*

*Virgil's Aeneid: A Discussion Guide*

*Virgil's "The Fall of Troy": A Discussion Guide*

*Voltaire's Candide: A Discussion Guide*

*William Shakespeare's 1 Henry IV: A Discussion Guide*

*William Shakespeare's Macbeth: A Discussion Guide*

*William Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream: A Discussion Guide*

*William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet: A Discussion Guide*

*William Sleator's Oddballs: A Discussion Guide*

